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Japan

Soviet Officials Call For Far East Investment

OW3010142791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1412 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Niigata, Oct. 30 KYODO—Soviet officials urged Japan on Wednesday to boost investment in the Soviet Far East and emergency assistance to help the Soviet Union tide over its economic crisis.

At a seminar on Soviet affairs in Niigata, a senior official of the government of the Soviet maritime territory said the structures of the local governments in the Russian republic have changed dramatically in the wake of the abortive coup in August.

He also said that seven local governments in the Soviet Far East have set up a joint forum to pursue their local interests. He urged Japanese participants to make more investments in the Soviet Far East region.

Niigata Governor Kiyoshi Kaneko said that he wants to inaugurate air and sea services between Niigata and Vladivostok after the Soviet Far East port city is opened to foreigners in January next year.

Kaneko also said that he hopes the Soviet consulate general will be open in Niigata.

In response to Kaneko's eagerness to promote exchanges between Niigata and the Soviet Far East, Soviet Ambassador to Japan Lyudvig Chizhov said the Soviets have already conveyed their intention to open the consulate general in Niigata to the Japanese Government.

The Soviet envoy reiterated a call for more emergency aid from Japan.

Among participants in the seminar hosted by the Niigata prefectural government was Nagao Hyodo, director general of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau.

Meanwhile, in Hyogo Prefecture in western Japan, a symposium on exchanges among areas surrounding the Sea of Japan was held with some 350 people attending, including a representative of the local legislature in Khabarovsk.

The Soviet representative said that co-existence and co-prosperity will be achieved if the countries surrounding the Sea of Japan help each other by providing resources, labor force, capital, and technology.

Moscow 'Expects' Technical, Intellectual Aid

OW3010104991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1015 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—The Soviet Union expects forthcoming technical and intellectual assistance from Japan to reach several billion dollars, Soviet diplomatic sources in Tokyo said Wednesday.

The sources said it should be possible to greatly expand the technical and intellectual aid offered by Japan, prior to a decision by the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized countries on extending large-scale financial aid to Moscow.

In contrast to possible financial aid, which may link with a resolution to the territorial dispute between the two countries, sources stressed there was "absolutely no limit" on the amount of aid outlined in a previous bilateral aid accord in support of Soviet reforms.

"So it could be expanded on a large scale, even on the order of several billions of dollars," said one diplomat.

The sources said under Japan's next prime minister, Kiichi Miyazawa, Moscow expects the assistance to come via the accord, which was signed during Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan last April.

Moscow also expects Japan to increase its trade insurance, set last October at 1.8 billion dollars, the sources said.

DPRK Official on Accepting Nuclear Inspections

OW2910125991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1248 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO—North Korea will not accept international inspections of its nuclear facilities unless both South and North Korea make a declaration confirming the withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea, a senior North Korean official said in Tokyo on Tuesday.

Kim Hyong-u, vice director of the Workers' Party's International Department, said in a press conference at Japan's Diet that both Koreas must agree to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free and peaceful zone before North Korea accepts inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Kim is visiting Japan at the invitation of the Social Democratic Party, Japan's largest opposition party.

Kim went on to say that the nuclear inspection problem and the stalemated Japan-North Korea normalization talks are separate issues.

He criticized the United States and Japan, which demand that North Korea unconditionally accept nuclear inspections, saying they want inspections of "nonexistent nuclear facilities" but ignore the danger of the existing nuclear weapons in South Korea.

He also said that if the U.S. nuclear withdrawal from South Korea is confirmed, it will open simultaneous nuclear inspections in both Koreas.

Government Asks U.S., UK To Rejoin UNESCO

OW3010113791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1128 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—Japan has called on the United States and Britain to rejoin the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

(UNESCO) in light of plans to reform the humanitarian entity, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday.

The officials said the calls were made in Tokyo on Monday and Tuesday to the embassies of the two countries, which withdrew from UNESCO in 1984 and 1985, respectively, on grounds the organization was overpoliticized and badly managed.

The U.S. and Britain had together contributed about 30 percent of UNESCO's budget and their departure forced the organization to slash its spending.

The diplomats were told Japan wishes to see the U.S. and Britain "reconsider their positions and to return to UNESCO," the officials said.

The diplomats were quoted as pledging to convey the request to their governments and expressing appreciation for Japan's initiative to revamp UNESCO.

Japan introduced a reform proposal last April for consideration at the UNESCO general conference now underway in Paris.

Negotiations with other member states resulted in a consensus draft resolution, entailing some modifications to the original proposal, which was unanimously adopted by the conference Thursday.

The Japanese-brokered plan calls for changing executive board membership from individuals to countries and setting up a small committee of experts and a panel of intellectuals.

Officials said Japan intends to make a similar approach to Singapore, which also dropped out of UNESCO.

The Paris-based organization now has 163 member states, including the three Baltic republics. Its conference began October 15 and will last through November 7.

Agreement With U.S. on Radio Wave User Fees

OW2910121191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO—Japanese and U.S. telecommunications officials have agreed on early introduction of fees for users of radio waves to help promote the effective use of frequencies, the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry said the agreement was reached at a two-day session held in Tokyo Monday and Tuesday by representatives from the ministry and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

Both sides agreed to speed up technology development for the use of mobile communications media, it said.

They also agreed to cooperate in bringing down overseas telephone rates.

German Power Firms To Conclude Business Deal

OW2910104391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1028 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Sendai, Oct. 29 KYODO—Tohoku Electric Power Co. said Tuesday it will sign a business collaboration agreement with German company Preussenelektra.

Under the agreement, the company said, the two parties will exchange information on technologies to harness atomic power and wind energy.

Preussenelektra, based in Hanover, is the second-largest electric power company in Germany with an annual output of about 56.1 billion kilowatts.

Tohoku has already signed similar agreements with electric power companies in China, the United States, and Canada.

Yellow Sea Oil Development Project To Resume

OW3010123291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1206 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—Nippon Oil Co., Korea Petroleum Development Corp. (Pedoco), and British Petroleum Co. (BP) plan to resume an oil development project on the continental shelf below the Yellow Sea, a Nippon Oil spokesman said Wednesday.

Nippon Oil Exploration Co., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nippon Oil, has received approval for the project from Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), the spokesman said.

He said he presumed Pedoco and BP had the permission of the South Korean Government. BP will be a licensed operator under South Korean development rights.

Japan and South Korea agreed in 1974 to share petroleum and natural gas co-produced on the continental shelf below the Yellow Sea.

The three companies will develop a 26,000 square kilometer area called mining fields numbers two and four. In area No. 2, Nippon Oil Exploration will have 50 percent development rights, BP 40 percent, and Pedoco 10 percent. For area No.4, Nippon Oil Exploration will hold 50 percent, BP 35 percent, and Pedoco 15 percent.

Nippon Oil officials said the three firms are working on a joint enterprise plan and will seek support from fisheries organizations operating near the mining fields.

Industry sources said the companies hope to begin drilling next spring and expect to drill three tentative oil wells by 1999.

The Nippon Oil officials estimated that drilling a single tentative oil well would cost around 2 billion yen. Nippon Oil will bear all the costs for its share of the project.

This will be the second time for Japan and South Korea to try drilling an area together. Six drilling wells were dug in the first stage of development beginning in 1976, but the companies did not find enough oil and retreated.

In that stage, such U.S. oil companies as Chevron Corp. and Texaco Inc. dug for oil under South Korean rights.

This time, however, the Nippon Oil spokesman said, "the possibility (of success) is high from the data we have accumulated from the first stage of development."

Minesweepers Return From Persian Gulf Mission

OW3010032891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0114 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Kure, Hiroshima Pref., Oct. 30 KYODO—A group of six minesweepers and support ships returned to Kure port in western Japan on Wednesday, after completing a three-month operation in the Persian Gulf to clear Iraqi-laid mines.

The flagship Hayase, the supply ship Tokiwa, and four minesweepers dropped anchor in Kure port.

The relatives of the 509 Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) crew members of the ships, along with MSDF officers and government officials, greeted the vessels as a military band played.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Defense Agency Chief Yukihiko Ikeda were present at the welcoming ceremony.

Demonstrators in rubber boats were also on hand to protest at the dispatch of the six MSDF vessels to the Persian Gulf, which they maintain is a violation of Japan's war-renouncing constitution.

The vessels left for the Persian Gulf on April 26.

During the three-month operation beginning June 5, the Japanese minesweepers exploded 34 mines in Iraqi and Iranian territorial waters.

The Japanese support ships also supplied military goods such as spare parts to the U.S., German, and other foreign military vessels in the Persian Gulf.

In the welcoming ceremony at a pier in the port, Kaifu hailed the successful operation by the six MSDF vessels in the Persian Gulf.

He said, "I am thankful for your devoted efforts to achieve an operation to sweep mines in the Persian Gulf."

The prime minister said the Japanese people will remember the MSDF personnel for a long time as front-runners to building Japanese contributions to international society.

Extraordinary Diet Session Set for 5 Nov-10 Dec

OW3010054091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0520 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—The cabinet will convene the Diet on Tuesday [5 November] to a 36-day extraordinary session through December 10, officials said Wednesday.

The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and opposition parties agreed on the schedule in a meeting of their representatives.

Both houses of the Diet will hold a prime ministerial election on the opening day to pick a replacement for outgoing Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. New LDP President Kiichi Miyazawa is certain to be elected prime minister because of the LDP's majority in the lower house.

Miyazawa will give a major policy speech at plenary sessions of both houses on November 8.

'Party Sources' Report Miyazawa Cabinet Choices

OW3010144391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1434 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—Kiichi Miyazawa, the new president of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the country's next prime minister, has tagged Kozo Watanabe as international trade and industry minister in his cabinet to be formed on November 5, party sources said Wednesday.

Watanabe, who previously served as minister of home affairs and welfare, is a senior member of the party's largest faction set up by former Premier Noboru Takeshita. He is not related to Michio Watanabe, the unsuccessful LDP presidential candidate who the sources said will serve as both deputy premier and foreign minister under the Miyazawa leadership.

The sources also said the post of justice minister will go to Keiwa Ok..da, also of the Takeshita faction.

Kunio Hatoyama, an up and coming Takeshita faction member, will be appointed education minister, the sources said.

The sources said Masami Tanabu, a defector from the Mitsuzuka faction, will receive his first ministerial post in agriculture.

Tanabu, representing the rice-growing prefecture of Aomori, will be expected to defend Japan's controversial ban on rice imports as the prolonged Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks draws to a close. He left the Mitsuzuka faction after leader Hiroshi Mitsuzuka expelled rival Mutsuki Kato for his alleged disobedience.

In an attempt to keep his disintegrating faction together, Mitsuzuka waged an aggressive campaign to press Miyazawa to appoint a member of his own faction to a key LDP post. As a result, LDP sources said, Miyazawa will make Yoshiro Mori, Mitsuzuka's top adviser and a former education minister, chairman of the party's Policy Affairs Research Council.

Sohei Miyashita, also of the Mitsuzuka faction, is a candidate for the post of Defense Agency director general, the sources said.

They said Miyazawa has decided to appoint Tamisuke Watanuki of the Takeshita faction to be LDP secretary general, and Koko Sato to be chairman of the party's Executive Council.

Mitsuzuka Faction To Receive Key LDP Post

OW3010035591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0342 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—Kiichi Miyazawa, newly elected president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), agreed Wednesday to give a key party post to the second-largest faction led by Hiroshi Mitsuzuka to keep party unity, party sources said.

Miyawaza, who is due to be elected prime minister November 5 at the Diet, and Mitsuzuka agreed in a meeting Wednesday morning that former Education Minister Yoshiro Mori, a Mitsuzuka faction member, will be named chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council.

Mitsuzuka, who ranked third in Sunday's party presidential election after Miyazawa and Michio Watanabe, reacted strongly Tuesday to a decision that the biggest power bloc founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, the Miyazawa faction and the Watanabe group share the three top party posts, excluding the Mitsuzuka faction.

Shin Kanemaru, leader of the Takeshita faction and the most powerful powerbroker in the party, and Kunikichi Saito, leader of the Miyazawa faction, met Tuesday night and confirmed the decision, the party sources said.

Miyazawa had already agreed to give the party's No. 2 post of secretary general to Tamisuke Watanuki, who will replace Keizo Obuchi. Watanuki belongs to the Takeshita faction, support from which was instrumental in bringing Miyazawa to power.

He had also picked Koko Sato, a Watanabe faction member, for the chairmanship of the LDP's decision-making Executive Council to succeed Takeo Nishioka.

Miyazawa at one stage had also decided to name Yoshiro Hayashi, a member of his own faction, chairman of the party's Policy Affairs Research Council, replacing Mutsuki Kato.

However, Miyazawa changed his mind after the strong repercussions from the group and urged Kanemaru, who played a kingmaker's role in Sunday's LDP leadership election, to reconsider the decision.

Kanmaru accepted Miyazawa's request, saying the party president has authority to name party executives.

Elder party leaders, including former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, who formerly led the Mitsuzuka faction, reportedly persuaded Kanemaru to accept a Mitsuzuka faction member for the top party post.

Kanemaru was reportedly displeased by internal conflicts within the Mitsuzuka faction, including the expulsion of Mutsuki Kato, incumbent chairman of the Policy Research Affairs Council, because of his rebellion against Mitsuzuka's entry into the party presidential race.

SDP Shadow Cabinet Outlines National Budget

OW3010101691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0950 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—The shadow cabinet of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) on Wednesday announced an outline for its independent national budget for fiscal 1992, totaling 74 trillion yen.

Japan's largest opposition party formed a shadow cabinet on September 12 to shape its own day-to-day parliamentary policies in contrast to those of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Wataru Kubo, the shadow cabinet's finance minister, made the announcement at a party policy study meeting in Tokyo, and said its own planned budget would trim by 2 trillion yen the total in budgetary requests received by the Finance Ministry.

According to the ministry, requests for the general account budget total 76.20 trillion yen for fiscal 1992, which begins on April 1 next year.

On defense, Kubo proposed a drastic revision of the government's medium-term defense build-up plan and a reduction in the number of Ground Self-Defense Force [SDF] personnel from 150,000 to 120,000. He also said the number of both Maritime SDF and Air SDF personnel would be cut by between 1,500 and 2,000.

Kubo referred to Japan's international contributions and proposed the creation of a "United Nations' peace security fund."

He also said the shadow cabinet would introduce an "environmental tax" aimed at preserving the global environment.

The 32-member shadow cabinet is headed by SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe acting as prime minister, and includes a deputy prime minister, a chief cabinet secretary, seven ministers, and 22 vice ministers.

Business Chief Supports Early Discount Rate Cut

OW3010114291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—In a major policy shift, the head of one of Japan's leading business organizations voiced support Wednesday for an early reduction in the nation's official discount rate.

"I don't oppose a rate cut. If it is cut once the economy gets worse, it would not be a camphor injection," said Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations.

Nagano said at a press conference the Japanese economy is now in a worse-than-expected shape, adding a rate cut in Japan would be good for the United States, which has been pressing for such a cut and is eager to slash its own interest rate.

Nagano had been cautious toward an early lowering of the official discount rate, claiming it could rekindle asset inflation known as the bubble economy.

In other remarks made at the press conference, Nagano said he favors continued government regulations on bank loans for real estate investment in order to prevent a renewed flare-up of property inflation.

The Finance Ministry has instructed banks to keep growth in real estate-related loans below overall lending so as to keep land prices falling.

Turning to trade issues, Nagano said the government should not be hasty in deciding whether to lift its ban on rice imports. "It would not be late to make a decision after Japan-U.S. summit talks in mid-November," he said.

Manufacturing Shipments Top Y300 Trillion in 1990

OW2910080091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0645 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO—Combined shipments of Japanese manufactured goods totaled 323.13 trillion yen in 1990, topping 300 trillion yen for the first time on record, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) reported Tuesday.

Last year's shipments represent an 8.1 percent increase from 298.89 trillion yen in 1989.

The shipments included added value worth 118.91 trillion yen, up 7.1 percent from a year earlier.

The study, conducted on December 31 last year, covered 435,966 manufacturing plants nationwide with four workers or more. Their combined work force is 11.17 million.

The plants surveyed account for about 98 percent of Japan's shipments of manufactured goods.

Transport machinery and other processing and assembly industries posted marked growth both in shipments and added value.

The oil and coal sectors enjoyed a sharp 18.5 percent rise in shipments, thanks to a surge in crude oil prices at the time of the Persian Gulf crisis, but their added value plunged more than 20 percent on a year-on-year basis.

The survey also showed that total investment in property and plants and equipment amounted to 15.95 trillion yen, a 12.2 percent rise and the third yearly double-digit growth in a row.

The transport machinery and other machinery sectors were the most lavish investors.

Accumulated inventories of those surveyed came to 28.06 trillion yen, a 8.7 percent rise from a year earlier.

North Korea

Threat To Blow Up U.S. Seoul Embassy Reported

SK2910135891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] According to a report broadcast from Seoul, amid the anti-U.S. struggle being waged fiercely in South Korea, on 25 October, the South Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command received a telephone call from a man warning that he would blow up the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, thus embarrassing and frightening the aggressors and puppets.

According to the report, a youth in his 20's warned that he would blow up the U.S. Embassy located in Sejong-no, downtown Seoul, by installing three explosive devices.

Commentary Demands U.S. Abandon Nuclear Policy

SK3010135891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0023 GMT 29 Oct 91

[NODONG SINMUN 29 October commentary: "Nuclear Weapons Should Be Completely Eliminated"]

[Text] Objecting to nuclear weapons is an important trend in our times. All people are concerned about the enormous nuclear arsenals resulting from the cold war because they may endanger peace and culture. Thus, all people unanimously demand that nuclear weapons be cut and then completely eliminated in the future.

Campaigns against nuclear weapons are launched throughout the world. Demands that nuclear weapons deployed in other countries be withdrawn escalate daily. Campaigns to create a nuclear-free zone are launched in various countries of the world. In addition, a nuclear-free zone is declared.

Numerous countries declare their policy against nuclear weapons. They take the step of banning ships and aircraft carrying nuclear weapons from calling at their ports and going through their countries.

At various meetings, both international and regional, voices against nuclear weapons are vigorously ringing. Regardless of politics, region, or race, peace-loving people participate in campaigns against nuclear weapons.

Feeling uneasy about such a daily growing campaign against nuclear weapons and about their influence, the imperialists are maneuvering to weaken this campaign. For example, the imperialists try to justify their policy of reinforcing nuclear arsenals and to veil themselves with the cover of an antinuclear policy.

U.S. President Bush recently announced the elimination of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons. It will be good if the United States really eliminates its tactical nuclear weapons as Bush promised. World opinion, however, views the U.S. announcement as a disguised peace policy.

For example, JOURNAL DE GENEVE, a Swiss newspaper, wrote: The U.S. measure about tactical nuclear weapons was prompted by its own internal situation. In a bid to produce the B-2 Stealth bomber for nuclear bombing by deeply infiltrating another country without being detected, and in a bid to promote the development of a Star Wars system aimed at carrying out a nuclear strike from space, the United States is engaging in the farce of eliminating tactical nuclear weapons in stages.

In addition, DER BUND wrote: Because there is not much need for tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, the decision to eliminate them is not drastic.

In the meantime, the U.S. Defense Information Center—a civilian military research organ—claimed: Even though the United States eliminates tactical nuclear weapons, 17,000 nuclear weapons, which can be used easily, will be left. Even though the United States eliminates tactical nuclear weapons, they will be kept in a warehouse and so will the means to launch them. Thus, tactical nuclear weapons can be deployed at any time; Bush's announcement is nothing but lip service.

The U.S. authorities have raved that they will keep up effective air nuclear capability by developing a new type of air-launched tactical nuclear missile in collaboration with allied NATO countries.

Even though the United States talks about the elimination of tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea, it does not officially announce a concrete plan. In addition, it does not refer to the delivery of nuclear weapons and the methods to launch nuclear weapons.

What is noteworthy is that the United States informed the South Korean puppets that the United States will keep on protecting South Korea under the U.S. nuclear umbrella.

It is no accident that world opinion doubts the true intention of the U.S. announcement on cutting tactical nuclear weapons. Threatening and blackmailing other countries with nuclear weapons is an unpardonable crime. The black cloud of a nuclear war hanging over mankind should be eliminated.

Objecting to nuclear weapons is an urgent and important issue in world peace and security. Campaigns against nuclear weapons are vigorous in order to protect peace. Thus, they are part of the people's struggle for independence and progress. Nothing can prevent these campaigns. The United States should look at the trends and give up its policy of reinforcing nuclear arsenals.

U.S. Plan To Keep Forces in ROK Denounced

SK3010131491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "Stubborn Act by the Occupation Forces"]

[Text] At a time when the call to withdraw nuclear weapons and U.S. forces from South Korea is resounding among the people at home and abroad, the United States is stubbornly continuing to station its forces of aggression in South Korea.

According to a report, on 25 October a U.S. broadcasting service carried remarks by a spokesman who said that the United States welcomes any kind of dialogue between the North and South to ease tension on the Korean peninsula, but added that whatever agreements the North and South reach will not influence the size of the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea.

This is an unforgivable and criminal absurdity which nakedly reveals the United States' vicious intent to ensure that North-South dialogues are dialogues in name only and to permanently come in from the flank and take over South Korea as a colonial and military base.

As everyone knows, the United States has babbled on various occasions that the Korean peninsula issue must be resolved through dialogue between the North and the South. Again, on 24 October, a U.S. State Department spokesman said that the United States welcomed the North-South high-level talks and expressed the U.S. position by saying that the North and South of Korea should take the leading role in any kind of dialogue for peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula.

Then, when the North and South were holding talks and a joint communique was adopted and announced, the United States suddenly changed its position and raved that no matter what agreement the North and South achieves in their talks, it cannot influence the size of the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea.

This naturally reveals that their remark that the issue of the Korean peninsula should be resolved through dialogue is bogus. This also clearly shows that the South Korean puppets are only dummies and have no authority in resolving the Korean peninsula issue. As long as the U.S. occupation forces' presence in South Korea continues, which is a fundamental obstacle to peace and peaceful reunification, and do not withdraw, nothing can be achieved.

In fact, the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea are the ones who divided the Korean peninsula into the North and the South, and they are viciously blocking Korea's peace and its peaceful reunification. They are also the root of the evil that forcibly brings all misfortunes and sufferings to our people.

The reason the U.S. imperialists occupied South Korea by force and are not withdrawing is related to their policy toward Korea. The U.S. imperialists seized the Korean peninsula, a strategic point in Asia. Making this a steppingstone, they are trying to realize global domination.

Therefore, from the first day of occupation, the U.S. imperialists dragged in many arms of aggression and changed South Korea into a colonial and military base and the largest nuclear outpost in the Far East. They are also constantly holding large- scale war exercises, including the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which is a nuclear test war and a preliminary war against our republic.

If the U.S. imperialists had not originally occupied South Korea by force, our country would not have been divided. Moreover, if the U.S. imperialists had not interfered in Korea's reunification, our people would have achieved it a long time ago.

The issue of the Korean peninsula has not been resolved for nearly half a century. This is totally due to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea by force. Accordingly, to say that the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea must withdraw to properly resolve the issue of the Korean peninsula cannot be considered controversial.

The times demand that the U.S. imperialists withdraw from South Korea. Nevertheless, the United States is trying to remain in South Korea. This is a vicious challenge to the people at home and abroad who desire the withdrawal of the U.S. forces. It only further proves their nature: haughtiness, shamefulness, and aggressiveness. Such a brigandish theory—to try to stay on after occupying half of the land of another country—cannot be understood anywhere.

By saying that the scale of the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea will not be influenced, even if some kind of agreements are reached in the North-South talks, the United States has admitted its inevitable responsibility for resolving the issue on the Korean peninsula. Therefore, the United States must respond to negotiations between the DPRK and the United States as soon as possible. Otherwise, the rascals will receive greater criticism and denunciation from the people of the world.

Paper Calls U.S.-ROK-Japan Talks 'Conspiracy'

SK3010055291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 30 Oct 91

["Dangerous Conspiracy"—KCNA headline]

Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—The U.S. and Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean authorities are reportedly to hold a "policy consultative meeting" in Seoul in early November to discuss the problem of the DPRK's acceptance of nuclear inspection, the DPRK-Japan relations, the DPRK-U.S. relations and the security of Northeast Asia.

The so-called "three-way negotiation" to be held in Seoul is a dangerous conspiracy to reproduce the U.S.-Japan-South Korea tripartite military alliance to suit the changed realities of today, NODONG SINMUN today says.

The news analyst continues:

The meeting is motivated by a sinister political purpose.

The problem of the DPRK's acceptance of international nuclear inspection is an example.

Our stand toward this problem is clear. Not only once have we declared that we have no capacity to produce nuclear weapons. The way of solving the problem of signing the nuclear safeguards accord [NSA] can be opened only after the United States totally and completely withdraws its nuclear weapons from the ground, the sea and the sky of South Korea, gives up nuclear threat, officially commits itself to the non-use of nuclear weapons and allows a simultaneous nuclear inspection.

Why are the United States, Japan and the South Korean puppets who must know it raising a hue and cry over "nuclear inspection" while persistently spreading the false rumour about our "development of nuclear weapons?"

Through this campaign, the United States seeks to justify its nuclear blackmail on the Korean peninsula and Japan to find a pretext for accelerating the building of a military power. The South Korean authorities are dreaming of remaining long in power by serving the United States as a guard of its nuclear weapons.

Meanwhile, the U.S., Japanese and South Korean reactionaries foolishly scheme to put pressure on us and isolate us with the problem of signing the NSA.

The DPRK-Japan and the DPRK-U.S. relations are bilateral issues that should be settled separately between the DPRK and Japan and between the DPRK and the United States. Therefore, these issues are in their nature should not be discussed at the U.S.-Japan-South Korea "three-way negotiation". Still less is the need for the South Korean authorities to poke their nose into these issues imprudently.

As far as the security of Northeast Asia that is said to be discussed at the meeting is concerned, the meeting must discuss, first of all, such primary and practical issues as the total, not partial, withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea because the "threat" from the Soviet Union has been removed practically, the replacement of the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and the adoption of a North-South nonaggression declaration, if the meeting is truly to contribute to peace and security in Asia.

The U.S. and Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean authorities must stop the campaign against us and act with discretion, discarding the anachronistic dream of having the final say in the matters in Asia as if they were the masters of this region.

U.S.-South Military Exercise Termed 'Criminal'

SK3010063191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0503 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets will reportedly start a large-scale "Eagle 91" joint military exercise, a provocative war game against the northern half of Korea, from the first of November.

It will be a criminal war exercise aimed at a surprise strike at the northern half of Korea with the mobilization of huge armed forces including the U.S. troops present in South Korea, the puppet army, police, the "homeland defence reserve force" and the "civilian defence corps" and warplanes, tanks, armoured vehicles and artillery pieces.

The United States brought forward a new arms reduction proposal, crying for global disarmament and detente and, moreover, it was decided at the fourth North-South high-level talks a few days ago to adopt a joint document of agreement containing the question of nonaggression and a joint communique on it was made public. But the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets announced again a plan of a large-scale war exercise. This is a challenge to peace and a blatant provocation to break up the North-South dialogue.

The announcement proved once again that "peace" and "disarmament" advertized by the United States are lies and the gesture of the South Korean puppets to show interest in the dialogue for reunification with phraseology of "confidence-building" and "exchange" at the conference table with us was a deception of anti- reunification splittists based on a scenario of the U.S. master.

Allied 27, 28 Oct Military Exercises Reported

SK3010063491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0507 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Air Force Command on October 28 staged a provocative joint air and ground strike exercise against the North in the sky above South Korea, according to military sources.

The U.S. imperialists sent a Pacific-based KC-135 refueling tanker to the sky above the West Sea off Kunsan for mid-air refuelling of F-16 and F-15 fighter-bombers in the war exercise.

On the 27th and 28th, they sent a U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane to the sky above the Military Demarcation Line, and let it make a shuttle flight from east to west, while letting various types of tactical reconnaissance planes of the army to fly for long hours for an intensive aerial espionage on the inland and frontline areas of the northern half of Korea.

Artillery, tank, armoured vehicles and motorized infantry units of the puppet army quickly deployed in Wonju and Pyongchang areas on October 28 staged an exercise to invade the North with the support of formations of fighter-bombers, assault planes and armed helicopters.

A group of tanks of the puppet army which occupied a position in Kumpa-ri, Paju County, on October 27 fired a volley of scores of shells while advancing toward the MDL. On October 28, formations of armed helicopters staged airlifting, parachuting and dropping exercises aimed at infiltrating into depths of our side.

The war planes mobilized in the aerial war exercises in the sky above South Korea on October 28 numbered more than 500.

Soccer Team Returns Home After Visiting U.S.

SK3010020991 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] Our county's soccer team led by Yi Myong-song, vice chairman of the DPRK State Sports Committee, which visited the United States, returned home on 22 October by plane.

Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the DPRK State Sports Committee; Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the DPRK Soccer Association and chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea; other functionaries concerned; and sportsmen of the city welcomed the soccer team.

Vice Premier Receives Jilin Friendship Delegation

SK2610050291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0422 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won met and had a friendly talk with the Chinese Jilin provincial friendship delegation led by Gao Wen, vice-chairman of the provincial committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference at the Mansudae Assembly hall Friday.

Vice President Meets PRC Publishing Delegation

SK3010110791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1030 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—Vice-President Yi Chong-ok met and had a friendly conversation with the delegation of the Chinese Foreign Languages Press Publishing Bureau led by its director Lin Wusun at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Present on the occasion were general director and editor-in-chief of the foreign language press group Kim Tok-hyon and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

During the current visit to Korea we have come to know well how sincerely the Korean people are respecting and following the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, the head of the delegation said.

While visiting Pyongyang and local areas, he added, we saw at hand the achievements made by the Korean people in the building of socialism and felt their deep feelings of friendship with the Chinese people.

Report Urges Compensation for Koreans in Japan

SK3010051191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—A seminar of historians on Japan's post-war disposal of problems was held in Tokyo on October 26, according to a NHK [Japan Broadcasting Cooperation] report.

Prof. Kang Tok-sam of Hitotsubashi University made a report on the subject "We Ask About Disposal of Problems After the Pacific War".

He made public data of a company on the conditions of Koreans who were taken to Japan before the Second World War and forced to work at Hokkaido coal mines.

The data prove that the company running the coal mines, in league with the government, drafted Korean workers and punished and murdered those who attempted to run away, he said.

At the seminar, views were manifested that the Japanese must regard Japan's past wrong as their own and reflect on it since such historical data have been discovered, and Japan's obligation to make a full postwar compensation for Koreans in Japan was confirmed.

Japan's Kanemaru Vows To Work for Better Ties

SK3010051291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo October 29 (KNS-KCNA)—Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister and Liberal-Democratic member of the House of Representatives of Japan, elaborated on the matter of the development of Japan-DPRK relations when he met a delegation of the international department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by its Deputy Director Kim Hyong-u in Tokyo on October 28.

He said he would make continued efforts in the future to promote the development of Japan-DPRK relations and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and he would request the new Japanese cabinet to do so.

Japanese Union Demands U.S. Nuclear Withdrawal

SK3010112891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—The 59th national congress of the All-Japan Harbour Workers' Union adopted a resoultion demanding the pullout of nuclear weapons from South Korea and the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Nuclear disarmament is under way in Europe, but it is not progressing in Asia, the resolution said, and continued:

The United States declared many a time that it would use nuclear weapons any time on the Korean peninsula if necessary and the South Korean "defence minister" threatened a "preemptive strike" on the "nuclear facilities in the northern half of the country."

Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is not only the desire of the Korean people in the North and the South for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country but also a demand of peoples of many countries for peace in Asia.

We demand the United States and the South Korean authorities to withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea and respond to the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

'Arafat Receives New DPRK Envoy's Credentials

SK3010055491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—I am rejoiced over the successful building of socialism, embodiment of the chuche idea in Korea under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, said Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, when he received credentials from new DPRK to Palestine Yi Chin-kyu on October 26.

Noting that the state of Palestine fully supports the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the DPRK for national reunification, he referred to the matter of developing the friendly relations between the State of Palestine and the DPRK.

European Seminar on Socialism Greets Kim Il-song

SK3010044991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0412 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—A letter came to the great leader President Kim Il-song from the participants in the European regional seminar on independence, self-reliance and socialism held in Copenhagen.

The participants in the seminar were unanimous in considering that the socialist society is a society where all the people live a harmonious life, enjoying freedom and equality as the master of the state and society and helping each other and only such a socialist society is able to fully display the social character of the people, the letter says, and continues:

We affirmed the validity and vitality of Korean socialism centred on the masses of the people and the chuche idea, its ideological and theoretical basis.

Noting that peace and security of the Korean peninsula is the key to world peace, the letter expresses full support for the proposals put forward by President Kim Il-song for the denuclearization of the peninsula and its reunification through confederation.

The letter wholeheartedly wishes President Kim Il-song long life in good health and happiness.

Greets Kim Chong-il

SK3010112191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from the participants in the European regional seminar on independence, self-reliance and socialism held in Copenhagen.

They in their letter say the chuche idea is a great doctrine which indicates the ideal of man for a peaceful world in which the people of all countries are the master of the world and the master of their destiny and they are independent, and the way for its realisation.

Noting that the chuche idea and the people-centred socialism, its embodiment, is invincible, they stress that they will in the future, too, wage an active struggle for realising the idea of independence, self-reliance and socialism, for the victory of the cause of global independence and a bright future of mankind and for the prosperity of reunified Korea.

They sincerely wish Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Envoy to Cuba Holds News Briefing on U.S. Arms

SK2910141691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 20 Oct 91

[Text] On 15 October, a news conference was held in our country's embassy to Cuba.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's portrait was hung on the front wall of the place where the news conference was held.

Cuban reporters from newspaper, communications, and broadcasting sectors participated in the news conference.

During the news conference, Pak Chung-kuk, our country's ambassador, said that if the United States is to withdraw its nuclear weapons, this must start on the Korean peninsula, where the danger of nuclear war is greatest. He continued to say that the United States must wholly and completely withdraw all kinds of nuclear weapons from South Korea.

The ambassador answered questions posed by reporters.

O Chin-u Meets Iranian, Egyptian Ambassadors

SK3010055591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u on October 29 respectively met and had a conversation with Iranian Ambassador to Korea Hassan Dabir who paid a farewell call on him and Egyptian Ambassador to Korea 'Ali Hegazi who paid a courtesy call on him.

Chondaehyop Issues Document on Joint UN Entry

SK2910152791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 29 (KCNA)—NEW KOREA TIMES, the overseas Koreans' newspaper published in Canada, said that the National Council of Student Representatives of South Korea (Chondaehyop) on October 3 issued a document clarifying its stand on the admission of the North and the South to the United Nations.

Saying that it is vexed at the separate entry of the South and the North into the U.N., Chondaehyop contended that this was resulted from the zealous promotion of the unilateral entry of the South into the U.N. by the U.S. and the South Korean "government" in disregard of the desire of the entire nation.

Chondaehyop further said:

The South and the North should get rid of distrust, hatred and hostility that have hitherto divided them and show in such international political arena as the United Nations looks of theirs trusting, loving and respecting each other as one and the same nation and build all legal and institutional mechanisms whereby to achieve reconciliation and unity.

The South and the North should strive to put an end to the separate membership and share a single seat in the United Nations as early as possible.

Even though the South and the North entered the U.N. separately, they should work for world peace and should destroy all institutional mechanisms which cause hostility between them and intensify confrontation and tensions.

The South and the North should adopt a nonaggression declaration and realise disarmament. And the South should abrogate the "National Security Law" and release the visitors to the North and pro-reunification figures.

The U.S. troops present in South Korea under the name of the U.N. forces must be withdrawn and the nuclear weapons known to be in their possession must be made public and withdrawn. And the truce agreement signed between the North and the United States as the representative of the U.N. forces must be replaced with a peace agreement at an early date because the North has joined the U.N.

South Journal Cited on Development of Chondaehyop

SK3010045191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—The September issue of the South Korean magazine MAL carried an article analysing the course of the growth of the "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) of South Korea which was written by Pak In-su, a policy member of Chondaehyop.

According to him, since its appearance through the June 1987 resistance, Chondaehyop has developed in such a manner as to further generalize the content of the struggle, substantially build up the leadership ranks and consolidate its inner organisational system and concentrate efforts on democracy through the struggle to successfully open the June 10 and August 15 South-North student talks in 1988, the struggle for the arrest of Chun Tu-hwan and Yi Sun-cha, the struggle to participate in the World Festival of Youth and Students held in Pyongyang in 1989, the struggle to destroy the "security-oriented rule", the struggle for the dissolution of the "Democratic Justice Party" in 1990, the struggle to make the pan- national rally a success and the struggle for the resignation of the No "regime" in 1991.

In the past five years the United States and the No "regime" have launched many suppressive offensives physically and ideologically, but Chondaehyop has grown to be the sole organisation representing the students.

Sports Official Cancels Talks on Unified Teams

SK3010104691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1020 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—If the South side truly wants to form a unified team for international games, it must, first of all, frankly apologize to our side for alluring and kidnapping our judoist and promptly send him back to the Northern half of the country where his parents, relatives and friends live, said Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee, in his telephone message today to Kim Chong-yul, chairman of the Olympic Committee of South Korea.

Recalling that our side already proposed to the South side to hold the fifth North-South sports talks on August 17 to dispatch a unified team to upcoming international table tennis games, the telephone message says:

But your side allured and kidnapped a judoist of our side on the threshold of the resumption of the talks, creating a grave obstacle to the talks.

This act of your side threw a wet blanket over the atmosphere of reconciliation and unity growing mature between the sportsmen of the North and the South. It is an unpardonable act fundamentally detrimental to the purport of the formation and dispatch of a unified team which presuppose a responsible guarantee of the personal safety of sportsmen of the two sides.

When some players of the South side, who visited Pyongyang on their way back home after participating in international football championships in a unified team, expressed their desire to stay in our Northern half, we persuaded them to return to the South safely, taking into account the future of the unified team. In view of this fact, the act of your side cannot be construed otherwise than a move to destroy the unified team.

It is self-evident that a unified team cannot be formed and dispatched smoothly as your side allured and kidnapped a player of the other side participating in an international game while paying lip service to the formation of a unified team for international games.

Our side urged your side to promptly send back our judoist kidnapped by your side and manifest its official stand never to do such act again, if it is truly interested in the formation and dispatch of a unified team.

Nevertheless, your side, far from meeting our just demand, ignored it and is trying to shift the blame for the suspension of the talks on to our side.

Judging from this act of your side, we cannot but doubt if your side is truly interested in forming a unified team and dispatching it to the games.

The entire fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas who turn out in a nationwide grand reunification march to accelerate the reunification, defining 1995 as the first year of reunification, unanimously hope that the North and the South will continue to participate in international games as a unified team.

Your side must see clearly this demand of the fellow countrymen, show your will for unity and reunification in action and strive to form a permanent unified team of the nation for reunification, not a temporary unified team for division.

Therefore, we consider it natural that if your side truly wants to form a unified team for international games, it must, first of all, frankly apologize to our side for alluring and kidnapping our judoist and promptly send him back to the Northern half of the country where his parents, relatives and friends live.

We hope that your side will ponder over our demand and promptly take positive measures so that the North-South sports talks may be opened smoothly at an early date.

Daily Condemns No, Chon 'Dictatorial Forces'

SK3010103291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0957 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—It was officially disclosed by a "presidential secretary of South Korea" that the No Tae-u "regime" saved the traitor Chon Tu-hwan and criminals of his "Fifth Republic".

This is drawing attention at home and abroad, says NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary. It goes on:

No Tae-u blared that he would break with the dictatorial forces of the "Fifth Republic" and pursue a new "democratic politics" when he came to power. But he has revived the dictatorial forces of the notorious "Fifth Republic", not pursuing democratic politics.

He has not only revived Chon Tu-hwan but also paroled his younger brother Chon Kyong-hwan who had committed all manner of arbitrariness and engaged himself in swindles under the dictatorship of the "Fifth Republic" and released some 50 criminals of the "Fifth Republic" from prison.

Worse still, the dictators of the "Fifth Republic" revived by him are hatching plots to hold important posts of political circles again, putting spurs to preparations for running for the 14th National Assembly general election in spring next year.

Facts prove that although No disguised himself as a "standard- bearer of democratization", he and Chon are twin military gangsters who grew from the same root of a poisonous plant sown by U.S. imperialists.

It is a still more heinous criminal act for No to try to set up a more diabolic military fascist dictatorial "regime" in South Korea in league with the revived forces of the "Fifth Republic".

Moves of the "Sixth Republic" and "Fifth Republic" forces to conspire together are expanding in scope with No's "presidential" term of office is drawing to a close.

It is too clear what terrible disasters the conspiracy and tieup between the new and old dictatorial forces will bring to the South Korean people.

Although No loudly talks about "democratic development", there is nothing to expect from him.

South Interference in Student Elections Condemned

SK2710090391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 27 Oct 91

["Petty Trick of Plotters"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet Ministry of Education issued instructions to campuses to give "guidance" to get non-activist students "elected" in the elections of the chairmen of the general student councils of universities and colleges to be held in November.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands this as an open interference in the campus autonomy and one more insult to the students.

The news analyst says:

Why are the South Korean puppets are straining their nerves over the election of the chairmen of the general student councils of universities and colleges?

They, no doubt, seek in this to exclude the students of the National Council of [University] Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) who are longing for independence, democracy and reunification and build the autonomous organisations of students with their meek lackeys and thus lull the just patriotic struggle of the students. The puppets intend to paralyse the activities of Chondaehyop and totally block the anti-U.S., anti-dictatorship struggle centering on campuses by putting the student organisation in their iron clutches through the replacement of the chairmen of the general student councils with their servants.

The South Korean students, however, will not be fooled by the wicked trick of the puppets. The mean moves of the No Tae-u group will only awaken the students.

National Scientists Meeting Closes

SK2910152291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 29 (KCNA)—The national meeting of scientists which opened here Monday closed today after successfully concluding its work.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

The speakers said that the meeting was convened at a significant time after the lapse of 45 years since the great leader President Kim Il-song arranged the historical first meeting of scientists and technicians and that the participants in the current meeting received a historical letter of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il which indicates the way of developing science and technology in the present time.

They said the scientists and technicians made a contribution to laying solid foundations of an independent national economy with their creative wisdom and devoted efforts in a short historical period and to accelerating grand socialist construction in the spirit of chollima spurred on by the speed campaign.

They called for bringing about a revolutionary turn in scientific and technological researches as required by the developing reality to lift the nation's science and technology including electronics engineering, mechanical engineering and heat engineering to a higher stage.

The speakers appealed to all the scientists and technicians to further glorify our socialism by creditably attaining the long-term objective of scientific and technical development till the year 2000 and the new three-year plan of scientific and technical development.

A letter of pledge was adopted at the meeting.

KCNA Reviews 28 Oct NODONG SINMUN

SK2810060391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

Text Pyongyang October 28 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today runs an editorial calling for achieving a greater victory in socialist construction, united around the party and the leader with a single heart.

The paper carries a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, on the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the formation of the independent state of Czechoslovakia.

Printed in the paper are messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il- song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], from Madan Bandari, general secretary of the Central Organizational Committee of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism), hailing the DPRK's admission to the United Nations and from Mohamed Belhadj

Amor, general secretary of the People's Unity Party of Tunisia, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea. The paper reports that works of the great leader President Kim Il-song have been reported in foreign countries.

Appearing in the paper are greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to J.S. Momoh on his reelection as leader of the All-People's Congress of Sierra Leone and to the 9th convention of the Socialist Unity Party of New Zealand, says the paper.

The paper reports that Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban ambassador to Korea, issued a statement to the press on the occasion of the second anniversary of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's answers to questions raised by the general director of the Cuban paper GRANMA.

The paper in an article says that President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il called at Nihyon-ri, Sadong District, Pyongyang, and gave wise guidance so that the party work could be done with the main stress on the work with people.

The paper conveys voices of foreigners praising the exploit of the Workers' Party of Korea serving people.

The econews of the paper includes the report that thrashing is being powerfully accelerated in the countryside.

The president of Senegal met a WPK delegation, the presidents of Angola and Bangladesh met the Korean ambassadors to their countries and the general director of the UNESCO met the head of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which participated in the 26th general meeting of the UNESCO.

Commenting on the "military confidence building" that the South Korean authorities are calling for, the paper says that "confidence building" without disarmament is sham which does not stipulate any practical step.

The paper conveys world public voices denouncing the South Korean authorities for barring the Pyongyang visit of South Korean students and demanding the return of old man Yi In-mo to the northern half of Korea.

The South Korean news columns of the paper include reports that women's religious organisations of South Korea rejected the scheme of the authorities to hold an international show of weapons and equipment of war in Seoul and that an all-people joint measure committee to boycott foreign goods and oppose market opening was inaugurated.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged a ground joint strike exercise, aerial espionage and gun-firing against the North, says the paper.

The paper in an article says that the No Tae-u "regime" is a rare devil "regime", a "regime" stifling human rights.

Given in the paper is news that the Japanese magazine ASAHI JOURNAL carried an article headlined "Japan, Make an Official Apology to Korea and her People" and the "91- Saitama festival for Japan-Korea friendship" was held in Japan.

Comrade Fidel Castro at a press conference in Mexico stated that Cuba dislikes surrender and, for this reason, it is the first and foremost task of the revolution to maintain a patriotic and socialist stand, the premier of Laos visited China, the Chinese delegate elaborated on the disarmament question at the first committee of the U.N. General Assembly, an international conference supporting Palestine took place in Iran and a meeting of the foreign ministers of Arab frontline states was held in Damascus, according to the paper.

The paper introduces the endeavours of Vietnam, Laos, India, Syria, Pakistan and Indonesia to build a prosperous new Asia.

A NODONG SINMUN article says that the phenomenon of the "rich get richer and the poor poorer" which is worsening worldwide cannot be eliminated without terminating the imperialists' exploitation and plunder of the developing countries.

KCNA Reviews 29 Oct Pyongyang Press

SK2910052791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang October 29 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a photo-accompanied report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received the delegation of the Jiangsu Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and the friendship delegation of Liaoning Province, China, and a report that the delegations presented gifts to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

President Kim Il-song received the Iranian ambassador to Korea, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN reports that President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message from Equatorial Guinean President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo in reply to his message of greetings on the 23rd anniversary of the independence of Equatorial Guinea.

Printed in the paper is a letter to President Kim Il-song from the participants in the Bangladesh national meeting supporting Korea's reunification.

Foreign papers reported about Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "Young Men and Women, Be the Young Vanguard Unfailingly Loyal to the Party and the Leader," says the paper.

MINJU CHOSON carries an article on the fact that Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely guided officials to make a correct economic calculation and produce more with less investment.

Seen in the press are an account of the opening of the national meeting of scientists, a report made by Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central

Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the Administration Council, at the meeting and a congratulatory message from the congratulatory group of the Korean Children's Union to the meeting.

NODONG SINMUN prints a message of greetings sent by the C.C., the WPK to the C.C., the Right Way Party of Turkey on its great victory in the parliamentary elections.

Papers report that election committees at all levels were organised and began to work for the city and county people's assembly elections to be held on November 24.

It is reported in papers that innovation is being effected in production at industrial establishments and thrashing is being hastened on co-op farms.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social-Democratic Party met with a delegation of the international department of the C.C., the WPK.

The production of works for "Yim Su-kyong Reunification Literature Prize" is brisk among working people and students across the country, says the paper.

Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] demanded that the North and the South participate in the U.N. as one member and that the U.S. Forces quit South Korea at once, taking along nuclear weapons, according to the press.

NODONG SINMUN reports that South Korean university students vigorously fight against "civilian defence training."

Yo Yon-ku, Presidium member of the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, sent a telephone message to the vice-chairman of the National Council of Christian Churches and the chairman of the Federation of Women's Organisations in South Korea on the question of participating in the seminar on the role of women to be held in Seoul, according to papers.

MINJU CHOSON comes out with an article titled "Confederation Is True Way of National Harmony and Reunification."

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that Kiichi Miyazawa was elected president of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan.

Papers report that the international organisation against torture sent an appeal to its 800 affiliated organisations, calling on them to launch a campaign to save old man Yi In-mo.

It is reported in papers that the permanent representative of the DPRK at the United Nations refuted the charges of some countries against the DPRK at the plenary meeting of the 46th session of the U.N. General Assembly over the problem of signing the nuclear safeguards accord [NSA].

Papers report that the permanent representative of the DPRK to the U.N. office and international organisations in Vienna was interviewed by reporters on the problem of signing the NSA.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary titled "Nuclear Weapons Must Be Removed Totally" on Bush's recent commitment to remove U.S. tactical nuclear arms.

The paper reports that the international liaison committee for reunification and peace in Korea issued a special issue of bulletin.

The paper runs an article titled "Conversion of Korean Peninsula Into Nuclear-Free, Peace Zone Is Our Consistent Position."

MINJU CHOSON carries an article saying that the "Agreement on Defence Secret Patent" to be signed by the United States and the South Korean puppets is a subjugating and humuliating unequal agreement.

KCNA Reviews 30 Oct Pyongyang Press

SK3010063391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a message of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], from Dilip Barua, general secretary of the Central Committee of the communist party of Bangladesh (Marxism-Leninism), on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the founding of the WPK.

President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message from Prime Minister George Price in reply to his greetings to the latter on the occasion of the 10th independence anniversary of Belize, the daily says.

According to the paper, immortal classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song and works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were studied and disseminated in different countries.

A message of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the national leadership of the movement for the democracy of Cape Verde on the first founding anniversary of the movement is carried in the paper.

Papers report that the national meeting of scientists closed after successfully concluding its work.

NODONG SINMIN comes out with memoirs of an anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter on the activities conducted by Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, during the battles to defend the Chechangzi guerilla zone in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Carried in the press are reports that the construction of an oxygen plant shop is progressing at a fast speed at the February 8 vinalon complex and spreading of humus soil on paddy fields is being accelerated in rural communities.

"Chuche Idea Is Undying Idea Which Glorifies Dignity and Value of Man" is the title of a NODONG SINMIN article.

Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister of Japan, met a delegation of the international department of the WPK Central Committee, according to the daily.

Papers inform the readers that students Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives], left Pyongyang for a third country, and they met reporters before their departure.

The DPRK representative at the U.N. office in Geneva presented his credentials to its director general, report papers.

Papers report that a South Korean youth warned he would explode the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, and South Korean farmers held a rally and protests demanding a proper rice price and opposing the import of U.S. rice.

NODONG SINMIN comments on the No Tae-u ruling group's criminal act in teaming up with the forces of the "Fifth Republic."

The paper runs an article titled "Anti-U.S. Independence Is True Way of Democratizing South Korean Society."

It is reported in papers that the world public circles support the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo and a seminar of historians on Japan's postwar disposal of problems was held in Tokyo.

NODONG SINMIN informs the readers that Korean youth and women met in Tokyo to demand the return of old man Yi In-mo to the northern half of Korea.

Commenting on the U.S.-Japan-South Korea "three-way negotiation" to be held in Seoul in early November, the paper denounces it as a criminal conspiracy to reproduce the tripartite military alliance to suit the changed realities today.

MINJU CHOSON comments on the utterances of the spokesman of the U.S. Defense Department revealing the intention to perpetuate the U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea.

In a monthly review of the South Korean situation, the paper exposes the No Tae-u ruling group's acts of confrontation and division against peace and reunification.

TASS reported a travelogue on Korea, according to NODONG SINMUN.

It is reported in the paper that Comrade Jiang Zemin inspected Zhejiang Province, the Revolutionary Committee of Kuomintang of China denounced the separatist moves of the advocates of "Taiwan's independence" and leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i called for support to the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people.

It informs the readers that the Supreme National Council of Cambodia met in Paris, the "day of the U.N." was observed at the United Nations and peace negotiation of El Salvador was held in Mexico.

The paper introduces achievements of Egypt, Ghana, Peru and Madagascar in economic construction.

It runs an article headlined "imperialists' moves to strengthen reactionary military blocs."

South Korea

Police Reinforce Guard Around U.S. Facilities

SK3010034491 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 30 Oct 91 p 23

[Text] The Police Administration Office on 29 October instructed police stations to reinforce the guard around U.S. facilities. This is in reaction to the decision by student organizations, including the Seoul District Federation of General Student Coucils (Sochongnyon), to conduct an anti-U.S. campaign. A "Week of Campaign Against the Import of the U.S. Agricultural Products" will be held from 28 October to 2 November as well as "Student Day" on 3 November.

Gorbachev-No Summit Changed ROK-USSR Ties

SK2510072891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0607 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—A top Soviet expert on international relations says the summit meeting between President No Tae-u and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev here last April provided a momentum for South and North Korea to enter the United Nations this fall.

The summit also marked the turning point for the Soviet Union to take more positive attitude toward the need for international inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities, said Dr. Nodari Simonia, deputy director of the Soviet Union's Institute for World Economy and International Relations.

Simonia expressed his opinion Friday at a seminar sponsored by the Cheju International Council.

The friendship treaty signed following the summit has strengthened relations between the two countries, broadened the horizon for economic cooperation and showed the possibility of working together for the solution of international problems, he said.

He described Gorbachev's so-called "Krasnoyarsk declaration" in last September as a genuine attempt to establish real peace in the Asian and Pacific region. The declaration, he said, led to concrete plans for denuclearization of Northeast Asia, a cut in naval forces in the region and an announcement on the withdrwal of Soviet forces from the Cam Ranh Bay base in Vietnam.

With the declaration, the Soviet Union also began to change its pro-north Korean policy, stress peaceful unification of Korea and understand the South Korean situation, he said.

Russian Official Arrives To Discuss Oil Projects

SK2310065391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 23 (YONHAP)—Valeriy Mandjiyev [name as received], deputy prime minister of the Kalmyk Autonomous Republic of Russia, arrived in the South Korean capital Wednesday to discuss oil development northwest of the Caspian Sea with the Hyundai Group.

Mandjiyev heads a seven-member delegation that is to negotiate a joint program to locate an estimated 487 million tons of oil under Kalmikia and increase production to 10,000 barrels a day.

Korea Petroleum Development Corp. will meet the team separately from Hyundai to discuss technological support and joint participation in the project.

Kalmykia, a small republic lying just north of the Caucasus in Russia, covers 75,500 square kilometers (29,035 square miles) and has a population of 320,000.

Discusses Drilling Projects

SK2610073291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0208 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—A Hyundai group subsidiary will begin to drill Soviet oil in Kalmyk town of Elista in the early half of next year and the first portion of the oil will be introduced into Korea in the second half, a Hyundai executive said Friday.

Yi Myong-pak, president of the Hyundai Resources Development Co., told reporters that his company was working on procedural matters with a delegation of the Kalmyk Autonomous Republic now on a visit here.

Valeriy Mandjiyev, deputy prime minister of the republic, arrived in Seoul Oct. 23 at the head of a seven-member delegation.

Yi said he would visit Kalmyk on Nov. 9 to finish preparations for the drilling. Some 500 million tons of petroleum are estimated to be buried in the town of Elista.

Hyundai and Kalmyk will make a 50-50 investment in the first- stage drilling that will continue for some 30 years, he said. The first year of drilling will see some 20,000 barrels of oil, he added.

Elista lies between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, and transportation of oil will be quite easy, he said.

Turning to international competition to exploit oil off the Soviet island of Sakhalin, Yi said prospects were good for a consortium Hyundai had formed with an Australian and a U.S. firms for the 2 billion-U.S.-dollar offshore drilling.

Some 300 million tons of oil are believed to be in the submarine oilfield. The successful bidder will be announced within this year, he said.

Corporations Step Up Marketing in Soviet Union

SK2510042791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0126 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korean enterprises are stepping up developmental marketing in major cities in the Soviet Union, extending their branch networks, attending product shows and consulting buyers, the Korean Trade and Industry Ministry said Friday.

A group of 10 companies, including Samsung Electronics and Goldstar, will embark on a weeklong business trip Oct. 30 to St. Petersburg, Kiev, Tallinn, and Vilnius after the Oct. 24-28 made-in- Korea fair in Moscow, it said.

They hope to find joint-venture partners and strike deals, particularly for consumer items such as textiles and electric home appliances, according to the Ministry.

The Korea Trade Promotion Corp. sponsored a trade mission by three companies Oct. 2-13 to Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Novosibirsk and Irkutsk.

The Korean business network is extending from Moscow to the Far East, Kazakhstan and Belorussia and has an increasing number of branches in the republics.

Hyundai Corp. has a branch in Nakhodka, Daewoo Corp. in Khabarovsk, Korus International in Alma-ata and Korea Textile Leader Co. in Minsk.

Samyang Products Co. and Kohap Ltd. plan to set up branches in Tashkent and Khabarovsk, respectively. Currently, South Korean companies have 16 branches in the Soviet Union.

Firms Seek Commercially Viable Soviet Technology

SK2510071091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Samsung Corp. and Daewoo Corp. have found advanced Soviet technologies with commercial potential that have not been put to practical use due to money shortages and lack of production skills, sources said Friday.

Samsung signed an agent contract with one of the largest technology transfer institutes in the Soviet Union in December 1989 for a method of making cholesterol reagent that it hopes to sell, the sources said.

It also inked a provisional contract for the technology to produce a drug to treat myocardial infarction that can replace R- TPA, currently only available as an import.

Samsung purchased know-how to manufacture and process carbon and carbon-related complex materials, and a hydrocarbon plasma transformation method in March-May this year, to develop fluorescent dye intermediate in July and to make electronic accelerators for disintegrating pollutants in August, the sources said.

Samsung signed a contract with Czechoslovakia to introduce manufacturing techniques for heart medicine last month.

Most of the technologies Samsung is seeking will replace imports.

Daewoo is considering a joint-venture research institute capitalized at 300,000 U.S. dollars in St. Petersburg with a Soviet physics research institute to develop an optical semiconductor.

Daewoo also is thinking about setting up a Korea-Soviet technology transfer cooperation center in Seoul.

Lucky-Goldstar and Hyundai Corp. are pushing to introduce Soviet technologies, but with no results, the sources said.

Private Efforts Urged on Deficit With Japan

SK3010075091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0642 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—The trade imbalance between South Korea and Japan was reaching immense proportions and something needed to be done to rectify the situation, but there was a limit to what the Japanese Government could do, Japanese Ambassador Kenichi Yanagi said Wednesday.

Japan was suggesting that the private sectors on both sides hold frequent consultations to solve the situation, he said.

The world should welcome normalization of Tokyo-Pyongyang ties as it would ultimately contribute to global peace and stability, he said.

Answering questions at a luncheon hosted by the Korean Council on Foreign Relations, Yanagi stressed the need for private-level efforts rather than government-based measures in correcting the trade imbalance, which is expected to be around 10 billion U.S. dollars in Japan's favor this year.

"Economic structure varies country to country. It is hard to attain balanced trade on bilateral basis," he told the council.

The imbalance in trade was "huge" and Japan was "deeply concerned" about it, the ambassador said.

"Something must be done to rectify the huge imbalance... But it is mostly the matter of private sector. There is a limit to what the government can do," he said.

In a speech on "Japan's foreign policy and perspectives for Japan-Korea relationship" before the question-answer session, Yanagi claimed that normalization of Tokyo-Pyongyang relations "promises to do more than just rectify the abnormal relationship between the two since World War II."

"These talks also have an international aspect in that the achievement of a normalized relationship should contribute to the world's peace and stability and should be welcomed by the world community as a whole, let alone our neighboring friends," he said in his speech.

South Korea-Japan relations were no longer bilateral issues, Yanagi said.

"...In view of the current turbulent world situations, marked by the instabilities and uncertainties, there is no other choice for both of us, in the pursuit of our respective long-term national interests, than to make serious efforts to forge truly 'close and intimate' relations," he added.

ROK, Thai Ministers Discuss North Nuclear Issue

SK2910131491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1242 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Bangkok, Oct. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korean Youth and Sports Minister Pak Chol-on and Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin agreed Tuesday on the need for their countries to make concerted efforts to get North Korea to sign a nuclear safeguards accord and open its nuclear facilities to outside inspection.

Pak asked the Thai minister to make diplomatic efforts to let North Korea sign the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear safeguards accord under which the signatory should open its facilities to international inspection. Sarasin said his government would make every possible effort.

Pak is to leave for Japan Wednesday, winding up his trip to Cambodia, Laos and Thailand.

Sudanese Minister Seeks Korean Investments

SK2610044191 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Oct 91 p 6

[By staff reporter Kang Sok-chae]

[Text] Sudan wants to attract Korean investors to improve its poor infrastructure and power sectors with greater financial and taxational favors, a high-ranking government official from the African country said yesterday.

"We need Korean investments in revitalizing our economy under the ongoing three-year Nation Economic Salvation Program [NESP]," said T.M. Abdalsalam [name as published], minister of industry and president of Public Investment Corporation, in an interview.

The minister, who arrived here Sunday 20 October for an eight-day visit leading a 10-member trade mission, said the medium-term NESP, with the 1990/1991 budget representing the first year, aims to revitalize the Sudanese economy through reallocation of resources toward production and to enhance the role of the private sector, whether national or foreign, to reorient financial, economic and institutional structures, creating a more conductive environment for private sector participation.

"One of the most important features of the program is the privatization of public enterprises by turning them into joint ventures with domestic and foreign private sector participation," the 43-year-old official said.

He said telecommunications, airlines and shipping lines are among the most promising privatization sectors for cooperation between Korean and Sudanese businessmen.

Abdalsalam has served as head of Public Investment Corporation since its creation in June 1990 as the sole Sudanese agency responsible for foreign investments there under the Encouragement Investment Act 1990.

Among the incentives stipulated in the 1990 investment act are the exemption from business profit tax for a period of no less than five years, profits up to 15 percent of the total investment will be tax exempt, profits above 15 percent will be subject to a flat rate of a maximum of 40 percent for a minimum period of 10 years. Investors will be allowed to keep a foreign exchange account and retain a certain percentage of their export proceeds to finance remittance of profits and depreciation allowance and importation of production inputs needed for their projects.

The minister, who addressed his speech to an investment seminar at the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry yesterday, said "Textiles, leather, food industries, hotel, banking and animal production sectors are traditional cooperation fields between the two countries." Saying Sudan has an easy access to the Middle East, Asia, Europe and Africa for its strategical position, Abdalsalam said his country will set up a free economic zone near Port Sudan soon, calling for Korean firms' active participation.

The minister expressed his thanks for Daewoo Corporation's active participation in joint venture businesses with Sudanese firms since 1976, adding Daewoo has hosted the official delegation during their stay here and organized trips to industrial sites.

Korea's exports to Sudan amounted to $7.723 million in 1990 with textiles and chemical products as its main items, while Korea imported a total of $9.08 million from the African nation in 1990 with cotton as its major item.

In 1989, Korea's exports to Sudan was $24.7 million against imports of $5.524 million.

Soviets Said Stopping Weapons Shipments to North

SK3010091291 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 30 Oct 91 p 1

[Text] On 30 October, a high government official revealed that since the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with the ROK, the Soviet Union has stopped supplying North Korea with offensive weapons and has not delivered weapons to North Korea even once.

He revealed that "just after the ROK and the Soviet Union established consular offices in 1989, military cooperation between the Soviet Union and North Korea cooled rapidly." He revealed that "when the ROK decided to give $3 billion in economic loans to the Soviet Union, the Soviet side agreed not to supply offensive weapons to North Korea at the ROK's request. He added that it has been confirmed that "the Soviet Union has not sold offensive weapons to North Korea since then."

Another source revealed that "because North Korea's weapons system depends most upon the Soviet Union, and because its ultramodern weapons—such as aircraft, tanks, and submarines—largely depend upon the Soviet Union, the North Korean forces are disturbed by the great reduction in Soviet military aid."

The sources pointed out that "it is therefore thought that North Korea has strengthened its will to develop nuclear weapons."

It has been reported that the Soviet Union supplied five MiG- 29's, 25 Sukhois, and 10 Frogfoots to North Korea, but it has not yet been confirmed if the Soviet Union supplied ultramodern weapons to North Korea. The Soviet Union and North Korea have not held a joint military exercise since September 1989 in the East Sea, and military cooperation has decreased greatly.

The Soviet Union is urging North Korea to repay $4.76 billion in debts, and, unlike before, the Soviet Union is asking North Korea to pay for weapons immediately. Thus, North Korea is not supplied with offensive weapons.

However, a Unification Board official said that "we cannot underestimate the North Korean forces because it has tried to produce Scud missiles, submarines, and other weapons independently, without the Soviet weapon supply."

Defector Says North Produced Plutonium in 1987

SK3010062991 Seoul SEKYE ILBO in Korean 30 Oct 91 p 1

[Report on article by Kim Chong-min, former North Korean official who defected to the South in 1988: "North Korea Succeeds in Producing Raw Material for Nuclear Weapons in 1987"]

[Text] With inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities emerging as a topic of international concern, testimony coming out that North Korea already in 1987 had achieved success at its nuclear reprocessing facility in the separation and extraction of plutonium, raw material used in the production of nuclear weapons, is drawing attention.

Kim Chong-min (age 48) participated in the construction of Yongbyon's nuclear development facilities when he was in charge of the material and supply section of the Ministry of Public Security [MPS]. He defected to South Korea in 1988. He revealed on 29 October his above recollections concerning North Korea's nuclear development as well as facts concerning the power struggle surrounding Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il.

Kim is the highest-ranking defector to come to South Korea from the North Korean Government. In the first installment of a series contributed by Kim to the SEKYE ILBO under his own name, Kim notes: "I know that North Korea completed construction and has been operating a 30,000-kilowatt research reactor since 1987." He adds: "I also heard from a responsible person who at the time supervised at the Yongbyon nuclear facility that by the end of 1987, North Korea would also put into operation a nuclear reprocessing facility and be capable of separating and extracting around 15 kilograms of plutonium annually."

Kim was the deputy director of the material supply agency subordinate to the Engineering Department of the MPS from the early 1980s through 1987. While working there, he was in charge of directly supplying materials needed by the Yongbyon nuclear facility in North Pyongan Province.

He states that he was able to hear information concerning the Yongbyon nuclear facility because he was active at the construction site of the Yongbyon facility as a high-level cadre capable of maintaining secrecy.

While making such statements, Kim insists that it is possible that North Korea already has developed a small-scale nuclear weapon, although he did not ascertain any firm supporting evidence that could be used as international proof of this claim.

Kim also notes the reasons for North Korea establishing the Yongbyon area as a nuclear development area, which include: it weakened U.S. forces capabilities to detect the facility; the area was conducive to construction of underground nuclear reprocessing facilities since there are virtually no industrial structures in the area; since almost no civilians reside in the area, secrecy can easily be maintained; and a winding river which separates Yongbyon-kun from the rest of the area essentially makes it an island.

Kim defected to South Korea on 1 May 1988 from Western Europe through Moscow, Berlin, and finally Bangkok, Thailand, before reaching Korea. At the time of his defection, he was serving as the president of the Taeyang Trading Company, a directly-managed enterprise of the Workers Party of Korea Cadre Department. A key figure in a so-called foreign currency earning enterprise, Kim was in charge of trade in uranium and cobalt in areas such as Africa.

Shortages, Military Spending Hurt North Economy

SK3010003791 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Oct 91 p 8

[Text] North Korean productivity is so low and military spending so high that the economy is contracting, according to a report released recently by the Export-Import Bank of Korea.

Food shortages worsened last year as North Korea grew 4.81 million tons of grain, 12 percent less than the year before and far short of the 6.4 million tons needed to feed the nation.

The report, compiled primarily from statistics prepared by the National Unification Board, said 70 percent of North Korea's energy is supplied by coal and production was 33 million tons, about one- third of what was needed, in 1991.

The North Korean budget was 17.3 billion U.S. dollars last year, or 75 percent of the gross national product, and 30 percent went to the military sector, the report said. GNP shrank 3.75 percent to 23.1 billion dodllars last year and per capita GNP fell 5.25 percent to 1,064 dollars.

North Korea was self-sufficient in mining and exported gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc, which accounted for 8 percent of all its exports, the report said.

North Rejects Proposal To Resume Sports Talks

SK3010093691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0834 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea rejected Wednesday South Korea's proposal to hold the postponed fifth round of inter-Korean sports talks Nov. 5 and demanded that first the South return a North Korean judoka who defected in August.

Kim Yu-sun, chairman of North Korea's National Olympic Committee, said in a telephone message to his South Korean counterpart, Kim Chong-yul, that South Korea had created a difficult situation ahead of Aug. 17, the original date for the fifth inter-Korean sports talks, by "abducting" Yi Chang-su.

He said it was impossible for the two sides to form a joint team for international competitions under current circumstances.

If South Korea was honestly interested in the formation of joint teams, it must return Yi at once, Kim said.

Kim said he hoped the sports talks would resume soon after the problem was resolved.

Relatives' Meeting Arranged on Delegation's Train

SK3010120091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0825 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 30 (YONHAP)—North Korea, violating a prior agreement with the South, has arranged a secret meeting between a South Korean newspaper reporter and his uncles living in the North.

The meeting took place aboard a special train carrying South Korea's Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and his party home from Pyongyang after the fourth inter-Korean prime ministers' conference in the North Korean capital Oct. 22-25.

The South Korean reporter, identified only as Kim, had gone to North Korea as a member of the South Korean press corps to cover the premiers' talks.

Although Kim was born in Dukwon, South Hamkyong Province, and knew he had uncles living in the North, he had not hoped to meet them as there was a prior agreement between the South and North that no family reunion would be allowed during official visits of delegations.

But North Korean officials apparently brought Kim's two uncles—Kim Kyong-ok, 62, and Kim Sang-ok, 60—and arranged the secret meeting with their nephew in a compartment of the special train as it sped South from Pyongyang to Kaesong, just north of the Demilitarized Zone, last Friday.

Kim was later quoted by the South Korean press as saying that he was led by several North Korean officials to the compartment at about 10:30 a.m. Friday. He said he could immediately recognize his uncles who "looked like my father."

Kim said he had about five minutes of talks with his uncles mostly about his father and their health and left the compartment after handing them "a few dollars that was in my pocket."

Several members of the South Korean press corps belatedly found out the meeting, went to Choe Pong-chon, chief North Korean liaison officer, and asked him for permission to take their pictures.

But Choe flatly denied that there was such a meeting.

There could have been accidental meetings between reporters and their distant relatives, an angry Choe was quoted as saying. "But we had not brought any relatives or acquaintances of the members of the Southern delegation to this train."

However, when South Korean reporters, backed up by Kim himself, pressed Choe further, the North Korean official in effect acknowledged that there was such an encounter by saying "the meeting must have occurred by chance."

Reporter Views New Economic 'Intelligence War'

SK2910065191 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 28 Oct 91 p 2

[From "Reporter's Memo" column by reporter U Tae-yong: "New 'Intelligence War'"]

[Text] Ideological confrontation in the world is disappearing with the end of communist rule in the suzerain Soviet Union. Instead, each country is rigorously pursuing economic confrontation to accumulate wealth. This is why the breaking away from the cold war is called the economic era.

An important element in determining victory or defeat in this economic era is intelligence. The competitor's technological level must be examined and the foreign market trend must be understood so that measures can be taken to survive the heated competition.

With the emergence of the economic era, intelligence-related agencies in every country are seeking new roles.

Newly-appointed Central Intelligence Agency Director Robert Gates said the CIA will move "very offensively" in its work related to the economy. Also, intelligence agencies in the Soviet Union and France since the early eighties have carried out activities in search of technological and market information from companies in the United States and other economic powers. It has been learned that China orders its students studying in the United States and Japan to obtain and report on economic information.

On 26 October, Japan decided to establish an Intelligence Bureau under its Foreign Ministry. Japan also has various other strategies to strengthen its intelligence, such as increasing the number of diplomats by 1,000 during the next five years. Japan, which holds Asia's economy in its hands, thus is preparing a full-scale global strategy to strengthen its foothold in the foreign market.

At a time when countries the world over are preparing for the new era, we are anxious to know what kind of preparations our country is making. It's true that some aspects of the cold war were more convenient for our country. This is because, whether diplomacy or intelligence, all we had to do was watch and follow the United States. Also, it was very easy to distinguish among countries. However, the situation now is completely different. We everywhere have to compete with foreign goods and technology. Competition comes from the deserts of Arabia, the jungles of Africa, and even back regions of Southeast Asia. How capable are we in gathering information regarding these regions?

Furthermore, we can predict that foreign countries will try to destroy and disrupt our economy by trying to tarnish the image of ROK products in the foreign markets and maneuvering to instigate our workers to demand increased wages.

As economic confrontation becomes intense, it is clear that unimaginable attempts to obtain a bigger share of foreign markets will occur frequently.

If our country is defeated in this economic war, we will be unable to overcome poverty, just as the communist countries were defeated in the ideological competition. Economic security has now become the country's security.

For the country's future, our intelligence agencies must turn their attention from the domestic political power game and move to the outside in this economic era, as other countries have done.

Kim Yong-sam Group Seeks Presidential Nomination

SK2910085191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0739 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 29 (YONHAP)—Followers of Kim Yong-sam have threatened to take independent action unless the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] nominates their leader as its presidential candidate by the end of next January, the CHUNGANG ILBO said Tuesday.

Quoting sources close to Kim, executive chairman of the DLP, the newspaper said the Kim's followers have already informed their intention to President No Tae-u and other party leaders. No is also the president of the DLP.

The Kim Yong-sam faction, consists mostly of the members of the former Reunification Democratic Party, made the move to counter a unified anti-Kim forces within the DLP, the newspaper said.

It said the anti-Kim faction is being formed by members of the former Democratic Justice Party and the former New Democratic Republican Party. The three parties were merged in February last year to form the DLP but factional tension remained ever since.

Kim Yong-sam's aides have told No indirectly that in order to win the next parliamentary elections, scheduled for around mid-March, No has to decide at an early date and name Kim Yong-sam as his successor, the CHUNGANG ILBO said.

The Kim aides are also striving to persuade "the influential people" surrounding No to accept their proposal while trying to win some members of the Democratic Justice Party faction to their side, the paper said.

In a bid to stop the intraparty feud, President No forbade party leaders to discuss political agenda and timetable until mid- December, but leaders of the Democratic Justice Party and New Democratic Republican Party factions have been meeting in recent weeks.

The Kim Yong-sam faction charged that these meetings were violating the presidential order and said it will launch a public campaign to win Kim's candidacy as soon as the presidential order is rescinded, the paper said.

The so-called anti-Kim forces in the DLP, however, believe that naming No's successor prior to the parliamentary elections would not help the party, the daily said.

Ranking officials at Chongwadae also reaffirmed that the DLP will select the presidential candidate through a free balloting at the party convention scheduled for May after the parliamentary elections, the newspaper said.

Opposition Party Holds Rallies With Farmers

SK2910011491 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Oct 91 p 2

["Press Pocket" column]

[Text] The Democratic Party [DP] seems to have entered into initial campaigning for next year's parliamentary elections which have yet to be scheduled by the ruling camp and for which formal electioneering is thus banned.

"Debates with the farmers" which the DP held in nine main cities across the country were just like stumping rallies for the party with full vigor by speakers and enthusiastic responses by participants, many of them actually DP members.

DP leaders listed what they called failure in the No Tae-u administration's agricultural policy in harsh tones and presented rosy pictures for the rural community, asked for support of their opposition party.

In Taejon, DP chairman Kim Tae-chung said, "You can hardly expect good policies from the ruling Democratic Liberal Party to save the ailing rural sector without farmers' decisions to do for themselves."

"It is the farmers who have been disappointed with the ruling party's discrimination against them but have cast ballots for it in every polls," he maintained.

Kim stayed at a rural house in near-by Yusong to show off his interest in the rural areas. He will return to Seoul today.

In Suwon, the capital of Kyonggi-to, Yi Ki-taek, coleader of the Democratic Party, stressed that the meetings with farmers are the DP's first attempt to sound out the feelings of the people through direct contacts to chart out policy alternatives.

These were the first public rallies which the DP organized since its birth last month through a merger between Kim's New Democratic Party and Yi's Democratic Party.

Planning Minister Discusses 1992 Economic Goals

SK3010023891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 30 (YONHAP)—The government's economic goals for 1992 are an 8-percent growth of the gross national product and a rise in consumer prices of 7-8 percent, Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu told a breakfast meeting Wednesday.

Choe, who is also economic planning minister, said that the government would continue its tight monetary policy and campaign to keep pay hikes below 10 percent.

"The government cannot loosen the tight monetary policy as long as prices are unstable... The government has exhibited its strong commitment to stability in the course of setting its purchase price of rice. The government will reward the support of farmers by stabilizing prices next year," he said.

Choe made the remarks in a meeting organized by alumni of top managers courses offered by Seoul national and Korea universities.

The government announced last week it would raise the state purchase price for rice 7 percent, triggering harsh protests among farmers who had been demanding a much higher hike.

He said the government's goal of 8 percent GNP growth also showed a will for stability. The rate was 1 percentage point lower than this year's goal, he pointed out.

"As the government pursues a stability-first policy, enterprises suffer a lack of financing. I believe they should overcome such difficulties by themselves, by restructuring their financial and investment plans and disposing of real estate and other properties."

He said financial institutions would become more selective in giving loans to firms and the largest portion would be given to promising small- and medium-sized firms.

The deputy prime minister said the national economy was showing signs of stabilizing.

"Growth is slowing from 9.1 percent in the first half to 8-8.5 percent in the second half. Prices have settled since September. Investment in the construction sector is growing less than 10 percent in the second half of the year. Apartment prices are falling, too."

He predicted a deficit of 8 billion U.S. dollars in the international balance of payments this year due to accumulated losses even if import growth slowed from 24.2 percent in the first half of the year to 12 percent in the second.

Purchase Prices, Quantities for Rice Established

SK2610015991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Oct 91 p 8

[Text] The government decided to increase state purchasing price of rice for this year 7 percent and to buy 8.5 million som from farmers. One som equals to 144 kilograms.

The decision was endorsed at a Cabinet meeting yesterday.

The 8.5 million som includes 1.5 million som of Tongil variety with high yield but poor taste whose purchasing price will remain unchanged as decided at the National Assembly a year earlier.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation will assume the purchase of 1 million som of the total volume to share the financial burden with the government.

The final decision for the price hike and quantity will be made at the National Assembly.

If the government's purchase plan is endorsed at the Assembly, farmers will be paid 119,210 won per 80-kilogram sack of first grade and 113,840 won for second grade.

But the price hike margin and quantity are lower than the recommendations of the grain pricing committee, an advisory body to the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry, and those demanded by the opposition Democratic Party.

The pricing committee earlier recommended that the government increase purchasing price 9.5-10.5 percent and buy 8.5 to 9.5 million som, and the opposition party has insisted on a 16 percent hike and 10 million som or more.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Cho Kyong-sik said, "The government has decided to add 1.8 percentage point as a bonus to the 5.2 percent in marginal production cost hike."

He added that the government is obliged to lower the hike margin to below 10 percent this year to narrow the gap between state purchasing and market prices.

"High state purchasing prices have caused the pressure by farmers on the government to buy more quantity and private rice dealers are unable to play their role."

He said his ministry will start rice buying on Nov. 1 at price proposed by the government and will settle the price difference when the National Assembly finalizes the price hike and quantity.

State rice inventories have stood at 14.5 million som this month, some 5.5 million som more than optimum stock, a ministry spokesman said.

The government has set aside 1,221.2 billion won to purchase 6 million som and will need 210 billion won for additional 1 million som, the spokesman said.

At the end of last year, the grain account deficit amounted to 4,477.4 billion won due to a dual pricing system—buying rice and barley from farmers higher than market prices and selling them to consumers lower than market prices.

The spokesman said warehousing cost per 1 million som is 34 billion won and the interest payment on the issuance of grain bonds worth of 4,492 billion won is 427.4 billion won a year.

The government also decided to increase prices of barley to be bought next spring 7 percent and to buy 500,000 som. One som in barley equals 138 kilograms.

The government will stop the purchase of Tongil rice from next year as the people are reluctant to eat the low quality breed.

Builders To Hire Ethnic Koreans From China

SK2510012991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 Oct 91 p 9

[Text] The construction industry is drawing up a plan to hire ethnic Koreans in China in the form of trainee-workers as part of its efforts to ease deepening manpower shortages at domestic construction sites.

The plan calls for the construction industry to jointly set up a vocational training center in China where ethnic Koreans will learn construction skills for certain periods, according to the Construction Association of Korea [CAK] yesterday.

The ethnic Koreans, after finishing training courses, will be brought into Korea to be employed at construction sites for three to six months in their capacity as trainee-workers, officials said.

The association said the Korean autonomous prefecture of Yanbian is emerging as the most suitable area for the location of the planned training center since there are a great number of ethnic Koreans in the region.

"We are making a feasibility study on the setup of a training center in China while trying to gather construction companies that want to hire ethnic Koreans in China," a CAK official said.

The association said it plans to complete its basic survey on the project and will submit its overall construction manpower supply plans to the Construction Ministry after holding a series of hearings.

Amid overheated construction activities in recent years, construction companies have been in trouble with the lack of construction workers and soaring wage increases.

Expanded Refinery Output Still Trails Demand

SK2810064391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0524 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea continues to expand its oil refining capacity at a breakneck pace, but consumption pulls further ahead each year, the Energy and Resources Ministry said Monday.

Oil consumption is growing 19 percent a year, and is likely to hold at that rate for the next several years, it said.

Supply will be 222,000 barrels a day short of demand in 1993 even with completion of refinery capacity of 100,000 barrels a day by Kukdong, it said.

The Ministry puts daily consumption at 1.169 million barrels this year, 1.345 million barrels next year, 1.457 million barrels in 1993, 1.541 million barrels in 1994, 1.614 million barrels in 1995 and 1.662 million barrels in 1996.

Ssangyong Refinery Co. added 100,000 barrels a day of capacity this year, bringing Korea's total refining capacity to 1.035 million barrels a day, but this is still short by 134,000 barrels a day. Kyongin Energy Co. will add 1,135 million barrels a day next year, but the shortage is likely to grow to 190,000 barrels.

The fuel shortage is expected to widen to 306,000 barrels in 1994, 379,000 barrels in 1995 and 427,000 barrels in 1996.

High Spending Reduces First-Half Savings Rate

SK2910030791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 29 (YONHAP)—High spending has cut deeply into South Korea's savings in the first half of the year, officials at the Bank of Korea said Tuesday.

The savings rate, gross national product less consumption, was 33.8 percent, compared with a capital accumulation rate of 39.2 percent.

In January-June last year, the savings rate was 32.5 percent and the investment rate 34.9 percent, and for all of last year the rates were 35.3 percent and 37.1 percent, respectively.

The officials predicted active investment growth and runaway consumption would keep the savings rate under the investment rate until the end of the year.

The savings shortfall necessitates foreign capital inflow to meet the demand for investment.

The savings rate hovered above the capital formation rate in 1986-1989 but slid from a record 38.1 percent in 1988 to 35.3 percent in 1989 and 35.3 percent in 1990.

The decline was blamed on extravagant consumerism, rapid inflation and the increase of real estate prices.

Private consumption growth was 9.1 percent, about equal to GNP growth.

They said a slower private consumption increase was preferred for economic stability. Private consumption rose 6-7 percent in the early 1980s and GNP expanded 9 percent.

The investment rate jumped from 28.9 percent in 1986 to 37.1 percent in 1990, fueled by a construction boom.

Savings accounts at financial institutions totaled 298.9 trillion won (398.53 billion U.S. dollars) as of Aug. 31, up 29.2 percent from the end of last year.

The increase was 40.7 percent in 1989 and 29.9 percent in 1990. The slowdown was common to stock issues and savings at banks and other financial institutions.

Current Account Deficit at $8.46 Billion, Rising

SK3010115291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0906 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea's current account deficit has reached 8.46 billion U.S. dollars in January-September and could hit a record 10 billion dollars by the end of the year, the Bank of Korea said Wednesday.

The September deficit was 570 million dollars and the October figure is projected at 1 billion dollars by the bank. It said Korea had a trade deficit of 1.27 billion dollars on a customs clearance basis for the first 29 days of this month.

September saw red ink in invisible trade and transfer payments as well as merchandise trade, the central bank said.

The merchandise trade deficit was 392 million dollars on an international payments basis in September, with exports at 5.69 billion dollars, down 5.3 percent from a year ago, and imports at 6.09 billion dollars, up 5.5 percent. Shortfalls of 177 million dollars and 5 million dollars were recorded in invisible trade and transfer payments, respectively.

Korea saw a surplus of 70 million dollars in trade with the United States, with exports down 16.2 percent and imports up 7.4 percent. With Japan, exports and imports fell 18.2 percent and 6.6 percent, respectively, for a deficit of 460 million dollars.

The trade deficit with Japan amounted to 6.67 billion dollars, up 2.35 billion dollars as of the end of September this year.

In January-September, the aggregate trade deficit was 7.2 billion dollars, with exports for the first three quarters at 49.94 billion dollars, up 8.6 percent from a year ago, and imports at 57.14 billion dollars, up 23 percent.

Inflation, Stability Seen as Key Economic Issues

SK2510030991Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC WEEKLY in English 21 Oct 91 pp 1, 8-9

[Text] Both the public and private companies reportedly feel high prices and political stabilization are the key issues facing the country, mostly expressing their mistrust in the government's policies.

Moreover, private companies reportedly expressed their feelings that their business conditions had worsened due to the government's inconsistent policies, tight liquidity and little improvement in the government's intervention in private business activities.

These and other trends were made known in a written question- answer survey jointly conducted by the Korea Economic Daily and the Dongsuh Economic Research Institute of 1,500 persons, including 1,000 ordinary citizens living in Seoul, Kyonggi Province, Pusan, Taegu, Kwangju, Taejon and Chonju, 150 representatives from large and small private firms and 200 experts and specialists in all walks of life.

The joint survey was conducted in commemoration of the 27th anniversary of the Korea Economic Daily's founding. The Dongsuh Economic Research Institute is a research organ attached to Dongsuh Securities.

Of the total surveyed, 88.8 percent expressed pessimistic forecasts about the national economy this year.

Asked about the credibility of the government's economic policies, 63.7 percent of the total respondents replied that they were doubtful in government's economic policies to a certain degree, and 16.1 percent said that they distrusted them.

This indicates that eight (79.8 percent) of 10 persons had negative attitudes against government's economic policies.

As for reasons for mistrust of the government's economic policies, 42.7 percent noted the government's inconsistent policies, 20.8 percent—frequent changes or suspension, 17.7 percent—the untimely implementation of various economic policies, 14.3 percent—the establishment of inappropriate economic directives, and 3.5 percent—the disharmony among government ministries in charge of economic affairs, the survey showed.

When asked about the most critical and urgent economic issues facing the country, 55.3 percent of the total pollees picked price stabilization, 34.9 percent—political stabilization, and 26.1 percent—increased investments in R&D (research and development) projects, the survey revealed.

Pointing out that soaring prices were caused mainly by excessive consumption and the sharp rise in prices for real estate, 40.3 percent of the total respondents stressed the need for stabilization of real estate prices, and 26.4 percent argued that domestic consumption should be curbed as much as possible in order to help stabilize prices.

Of the total surveyed, 77.8 percent forecast that prices next year would rise far higher than this year, largely because of various elections during the year.

Although the pollees recognize excessive consumption as a social evil, most of them were apt to pass the responsibility for the recent extravagant consumption moods to others, the survey disclosed.

Asked about the reasons for sluggish exports, 57.9 percent of the respondents picked the weakening price competitiveness of Korean export items deriving from the increase in the exchange rate and labor costs, the survey showed.

About 55 percent of the total respondents stressed the need for increased R&D spending in an effort to help boost exports, the survey said.

A majority of the pollees expressed views that Korea's opening schedules for the capital market and farm products are too hasty, saying that they also feel that Korea will eventually have to open the markets.

Many of the respondents also expressed critical views about tax burdens and government's policies toward large enterprises, the survey disclosed.

Economic Policies

The joint survey also disclosed that most people are not content with the government's management of the overall economy. Out of the total questioned, 48.0 percent responded that management of economic policies is very poor, while 40.8 percent said that it is largely poor.

As for the most serious economic problems facing the country, 37.8 percent of the respondents cited price hikes, 24.7 percent the current-account and trade deficits, 15.9 percent real estate speculation, 10.6 percent income disparity and 6.5 percent the government's belt-tightening policy. Only 2.2 percent of respondents believed that the labor shortage is the most difficult economic problem.

When asked about the most efficient way to put the economy on the right track, 55.3 percent of the total surveyed cited price stabilization, 34.9 percent political stability, 26.1 percent stepped-up R&D efforts and 23.2 percent the strengthening of exports.

The general public and entrepreneurs alike picked up price stabilization as the best way to cure the current economic malaise. However, as the second best the general public cited political stability, while entrepreneurs chose the technological development.

Regarding labor-management relation, only 4.8 percent of respondents representing large companies answered that it is important to stable economic growth, while 10.4 percent of the respondents representing small- and medium-sized companies gave the same answer.

Prices

When asked what is the major cause for the unstable prices, 44.1 percent of the total questioned chose excessive consumption, 31.3 percent rising real estate prices, 11.3 percent liquidity expansion, 5.9 percent budget expansion and 5.7 percent wage increases.

Regarding the priority for curbing the price increases, 40.3 percent of the surveyed said that real estate prices should be stabilized, 26.4 percent believed that aggregate demand has to be strictly controlled and 15.0 percent answered that monetary and fiscal policies should be tightened. It was noted that out of the general public questioned, 15.7 percent felt that public fare increases should be checked to stabilize general prices.

As for price indices announced by the government, 72.7 percent of the questioned are of the opinion that they are lower than the price increases that they feel in the market. On the other hand, only 2.6 percent think that the price indices reflect the true picture of price increases, while 3.8 percent believe that the indices are higher than the real price increases. The remaining 20.9 percent answered that they don't know.

About future price movement, 44 percent predicted that price increases for next year will be the same as for this year, while 33.8 percent replied that price increases for next year will be higher than this year.

Asked about the reasons for the high or higher price increases, 42.0 percent of the surveyed cited liquidity expansion as a result of the upcoming general and presidential elections slated for next year and 31.5 percent people's expectation for unstable prices that will them from the various elections.

Trade Balance

Some 57.9 percent attributed the current sluggish exports to Korean products' weakening competitiveness in the international market, stemming from the appreciation of the won and wage hikes. Another 8.6 percent cited trade friction, with 3.9 percent market citing opening and 1.5 percent the advanced countries' slumping economies. As an urgent measure to boost exports, 55.3 percent said more investment in research and development (R&D) for hightech products was the most important factor. More than half of the respondents believe that long-term prospects for trade with northern countries, including the Soviet Union, are bright. They think that even though exports to the United States and Japan, Korea's two largest trading partners, are sluggish, exports to the northern countries are expected to compensate for the deficit recorded in trade with the United States and Japan. About 63.5 percent said excessive consumption and a preference for foreign products were the major causes for increasing imports. Of the respondents, 19.7 percent also cited market opening as a factor, 7 percent rising machinery imports, 6.7 percent the domestic construction boom and 1.7 percent the rise in raw material prices. Asked about the pace of market opening, 22.2 percent termed it "incredibly fast" while 57.6 percent answered "fast". Regarding the opening of the agricultural market, 31.1 percent said there should be no further opening, while 30.4 percent said the number of items to be opened should be decreased. Another 21.2 percent said imports of agricultural products should be restricted, while 14.9 percent said the current pace was OK. And 2.4 percent said the pace should be faster than the government planned.

Business Conditions

Most respondents (71 percent) said business conditions were worse this year than last year or in the 1980s. In particular, 80 percent of chaebols or conglomerates said their business conditions were severely worse this year. Asked about the difficulties in doing business, chaebols cited the failure of the government's policy, low levels of technology, a shortage of funds, government restrictions,and labor disputes. Meanwhile, small and medium-sized companies cited low levels of technology, the failure of government policy, a shortage of funds and labor disputes. The survey indicates that chaebols are concerned about government policy, while small and medium sized companies are facing difficulties in developing high- tech products. Regarding government regulation of private companies, 80 percent said the regulations were disturbing their business. Only 2.4 percent said the government should tighten its restrictions on private companies. Of the respondents 46.3 percent said interest rate were too high, while 38.6 percent merely answered "high". Of small and medium-sized companies, 35.9 percent companies said 13 to 16 percent was proper as an annual interest rate, and 33.8 percent of large companies agreed. No respondents said annual interest rates should be more than 25 percent. However, 6.1 percent of small companies and 13.1 percent of large companies agreed upon 21-25 percent as a proper interest rate.

Public Perceptions

Many Koreans have negative opinions about large-sized companies or the so-called "chaebol" because of such practices as negligence of technology development, stimulating excessive consumption and high-handedness with their strong economic power, according to a poll which allowed multiple answers.

Of the total respondents, 49.2 percent replied that large-sized companies focus on stimulating consumption rather than on research and development, and 39.3 percent disapproved of their high - handedness with powerful economic strength. Experts from all economic sectors who answered affirmatively to the two questions accounted for 44.2 percent and 43.4 percent, respectively.

On the other hand, small and medium-sized companies, which are possible victim of high-handedness of large companies, had a stronger impression of high-handedness (47.8 percent) and consumption st8imulating (46.3 percent) about large companies.

About half of the polled large companies thought that they have contributed much to Korea's economic development but 39.7 percent also acknowledged their negligence of research and development.

When asked about their trust in the government's economic policies, 16.1 percent of those polled said absolutely not, 63.7 percent unreliable in many cases and 14.8 percent just so-so. In particular, the corporate sector was generally dissatisfied with the government's policies. As for the major dissatisfaction about government policies, inconsistancy accounted for 42.7 percent followed by poor efforts to achieve policies 20.8 percent, poor timing 17.7 percent, wrong direction 14.3 percent and disagreements between concerned authorities 3.5 percent.

When asked what they would do with an extra 50 million won, 39.7 percent said they would save it, 39.0 percent would purchase real estate, 10.2 percent would do something they wanted to 3.0 percent would purchase an automobile and 2.3 percent would travel overseas.

Forty-three percent answered that current living conditions are similiar to those of 2-3 years ago, 26.3 percent said worsened and 19.0 percent improved. For the average middle class respondent 30.1 percent said the current situation is worse because of inflation.

In particular, 62.1 percent said that they pay heavier taxes considering their income level and 27.1 percent said their current tax is a burden but regarded as a necessity.

More than half of the polled thought that the Korean public's consumption is too high considering Korea's economic strength and 37.1 said a somewhat high.

But as for their own consumption, 43.6 percent thought their consumption was a little higher than their income, 36.7 percent proper and 13.6 percent a little lower.

Interest Rate Liberalization and Stock Market Opening

Respondents demonstrated widely different opinions of the government's interest rate liberalization plan. Of the surveyed, 21.0 percent said it will not be so effective due to the government's passive attitude toward it and 38.0 percent said it will be effective anyway. Some 24.7 percent replied that the liberalization is too early, considered Korea's present economic situation.

Regarding forecasts of changes in interest rates after the liberalization, more than 60 percent respondents expected rates will increase in the short term. In particular, 41.9 percent predicted that rates will rise for a year and 19.5 percent felt they will fall in six months. Of the polled, 16.7 percent and 11.1 percent expected that the rates will fluctuate according to economic conditions and will continue to climb, respectively.

As for the stock market opening, about 80 percent of these surveyed think it is too early considering Korea's economic development and about 30 percent of the polled said its effects on the stock market will be great. In particular, 20.7 percent said the stock market opening is too early for the immature stock market while 57.4 percent replied it is inevitable. About 62.3 percent predicted the opening will not contribute much to increasing market prices, while 28.1 percent thought that it will sharply increase market prices.

Meanwhile, the survey also showed that many respondents have negative opinions on the realization of interest rate liberalization and the stock market opening. Some 22.5 percent said that the liberalization of interest rates and opening of the stock market will be successfully carried out, 48.6 percent anticipated that only half the schedules will be promoted. The remainder felt the plans will not be carried out successfully.

Economic Cooperation and Labor Management Relation

Answering questions about the speed of the economic cooperation with the Soviet Union and other communist countries, 34.6 percent of the total surveyed replied that the Korean government is moving too fast, while 33.9 percent said even though the government moving aggressively, Korean interests will not be damaged. On the contrary, 23.2 percent said that the speed is moderate in light of the current international situation.

Of the total surveyed, 81.3 percent replied that the economic exchanges between South and North Korea will expand steadily, while 8.0 percent said they will increase sharply. On the contrary, 1.7 percent expressed pessimistic views that South and North economic exchanges will shrink, and 0.5 percent said that they will be broken off.

Of the total surveyed, 52.9 percent said South and North economic exchanges reaches their potential after 2-3 years, 22.1 percent in 1992, and 20.6 percent in 4-5 years. Meanwhile, 1.3 percent replied that the economic relations will be in full-scale at the end of this year. Asked about the timing of unification between South and North Korea, 40.5 percent of the respondees said the unification will happen with 10 years and 24.7 percent replied that it will take more than 10 years. On the other hand, 20.7 percent expressed pessimistic views that it will realistically be impossible.

But businessmen surveyed are more optimistic on the unification issue.

Of total surveyed, 51.2 percent said unification will be realized in five years and 32.0 percent in 10 years.

Asked about major factors which contributed to the decrease in the number of labor disputes, 38.0 percent cited self-restraint among workers, and 26.9 percent and 22.5 percent attributed it to sluggish business and improved management and labor relations, respectively. Only 6.4 percent quoted the government's efforts to control labor disputes.

On the prospects for labormanagement relations , 68.5 percent said that it will become productive in 2-3 years. Especially, most respondees from large- and medium-sized companies expressed optimistic views that labor-management relations will improve in the near future.

Burma

Student Insurgents Escape; Police Recover Arms

BK3010151791 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] In order to safeguard regional peace and tranquility, the rule of law, and public safety, the Defense Forces and the People's Police Force are working around the clock to prevent terrorist insurgents from penetrating towns and villages. Likewise, the villagers who despise terrorist insurgents are also cooperating with the Defense Forces.

Thus, at about 0430 on 28 October two terrorist insurgents from the 206th Battalion of the ABSDF [All Burma Students' Democratic Front], entered (Bedan) village of Mudon Township, intending to carry out destructive activities and to make innocent citizens suffer. They aroused suspicion and, while being interrogated by the local people on security duty led by the (Bedan) Village Law and Order Restoration Council, the two terrorist insurgents said they belonged to the ABSDF. They then threw an American-made grenade and fled.

As soon as they heard this news, Defense Forces Personnel and People's Police Force members, who were on security duty in the vicinity, blocked off and searched the area and recovered four AK-47 assault rifles and 40 rounds of AK-47 ammunition from a denim travel bag nearby. Continuing their search, they later found one RPG launcher, nine RPG grenades, two AK-47 assault rifles, demolition equipment, and important documents.

Altogether six AK-47 assault rifles, 22 AK-47 magazines, 1244 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, four grenades, one RPG launcher, nine RPG grenades, five TNT mines, six mine fuses, nine yards of green wire, one compass, one dagger, important documents, and some medicines were seized.

The grenade thrown by the two terrorist insurgents injured U Aung Shein, age 30 years of (Bedan) village; U Chit Lwin, age 35 years; and Maung Maung San, age 16 years, who were hit by shrapnel.

The Defense Forces and the people are combining their efforts to capture the two ABSDF terrorist insurgents.

Student Group Vows To Continue Struggle

BK2910014191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Oct 91 p 6

[Text] The All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF) ended its weeklong conference on Friday at the Salween camp and vowed to continue the struggle to overthrow the Saw Muang regime and liberate the people from military dictatorship.

The third ABSDF conference also elected a new central committee comprising 23 members to lead the front for the next three years.

The new ABSDF chairman is Naing Aung, 31, a former student from Mandalay Medical College.

He succeeds out-going Moe Thi Zun, 27, who served as the ABSDF chairman for two years.

According to a ABSDF press release, the conference held at the Salween Student Camp, near the Thai border, opposite Mae Hong Son Province of Thailand, was attended by the representatives of student camps all over Burma.

During the conference, the central committee submitted reports on political and military [activities] of the ABSDF during 1989-1991.

The conference also adopted strategies for the future, the main being: —to liberate the people of Burma from the suppression of military dictatorship;
—to achieve democracy and human rights;
—to restore internal peace, and
—to establish a genuine Federal Union of Burma.

In order to achieve these objectives, the participants decided to intensify their struggle against military dictatorship by endeavouring to extend international political and economic pressure on the military regime.

Saw Maung Addresses Coordination Meeting

BK3010045591 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Excerpts] A coordination meeting of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and state and divisional law and order restoration councils was held at 0920 this morning in the Army Operations Hall of the Office of the Commander in Chief of the Defense Services. Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the SLORC and commander in chief of the Defense Services, addressed the meeting.

The coordination meeting was attended by: General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of the SLORC and deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services, and commander in chief of the Army; members of the SLORC; members of the cabinet; the chief justice; the attorney general; the inspector general; the chairman of the Public Service Selection Board; the military appointments general; the chief of staff of Navy; the chief of staff of Air Force; regional commanders; division commander; chairmen of state and divisional law and order restoration councils; directors general of the Office of the Chairman of the SLORC, the Cabinet, the Political Affairs Division of the Foreign Ministry, and the People's Assembly; members of the SLORC Information Committee; legal advisors of the Office of the SLORC and the Office of the People's Assembly; directors from the Defense Ministry; and responsible officials. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Saw Maung] I will only speak briefly at this meeting with regional and division commanders and chairmen of state and divisional law and order restoration councils. I have already spoken extensively on previous occasions about what I have to say. I only speak the truth. We have already held the elections as pledged. So, I will just speak briefly and to the point.

These are the important things. The first point: Others may breach conduct, but you must uphold your conduct. The second point is that others may violate the law, but you must not violate the law. The third point is, regardless of how much others cheat, you must not allow yourself to be cheated. The fourth point is that, though one may be learned, one's pledge is rarely honored. The fifth point is to work with mindfulness, diligence, and wisdom. The sixth point is to strive to rely upon oneself. The seventh point is to work with determination and to work diligently, zealously, and courageously. The eighth point is the phenomenon of cause and effect. You must believe in the phenomenon of effect being the result of cause. This is taught by the Buddha in his Discourse on Pattan [Buddhist metaphysics]. [passage omitted]

To speak what is true is the truth, and I only know how to speak the truth. I have already shown the evidence supporting what I said to those who should see it. I have in my possession this evidence, and the regional and divisional commanders and chairmen of state and divisional law and order restoration councils are welcome to see it for themselves.

What is happening today is that Buddhists are not observing the teachings relating to the 10 vices—three kinds of physical vice, four kinds of verbal vice, and three kinds of mental vice. In short, they do not even know the difference between anissa and marana [impermanence and death]. The difference between our country and other countries is that they claim that they eat with visual perception, but we eat with our mouth. This is known to all. They do not have a clear understanding of mind and matter [three previous words in English]. Every race has their own, what is called in the Western language, mentality [previous word in English]. They do not understand the Myanmar [Burmese] mentality. Every person has their own mind and it is quite natural for different persons with different minds to have compatability as well as differences.

Respective commissions have been formed to attend to the matters relating to parties, the law, and history. Public service personnel will have to attend to their own business. As for us, the members of the Defense Services, while discharging the duty toward the country, it is important for us to cooperate with monks and laymen in discharging the original duty of ensuring the prevalence of law and order in the country and happiness for the people. As for the constitution, keep in mind that this issue concerns all the citizenry. Please submit true situation reports and facts at this meeting so as to lay down programs to crush destructionist insurgents. Please also submit true facts on other matters frankly.

We will do as much as we can. Do not submit matters which we cannot do or impossible matters. In submitting issues, I would like to urge you not to compete or denigrate each other. [passage omitted]

From here, I would like to say this to organizations and to persons concerned. Stop making speculation, spreading rumors, broadcasting fabricated reports, passing oneself off as a good person while blaming others, and making allegations. Do not lie to the country. Do not lie to the people. As for us, I urge you to resolve to do what is to be done to the best of our ability in the interests of the country and the people. That is all. [end recording]

The meeting continued and the chairmen of state and divisional law and order restoration councils presented reports on their local situation. Next, Secretary-1 Major General Khin Nyunt and Secretary-2 Maj. Gen. Tin U made submissions on the political and economic situation in the country, construction and development projects, border region development project, and public service personnel affairs. General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of the SLORC, deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services, and commander in chief of the Army, spoke on the country's political, security, economic affairs and agricultural, livestock breeding, and rural development activities.

The meeting ended at 1645 after Sr. Gen. Saw Maung gave a closing address.

Rangoon Announces New Television Coverage

BK2910034691 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] The television programs of the Burma Television Network of the Department of Broadcasting that are now broadcast from 1900 [1230 GMT] every evening will be broadcast from 1830 [1200 GMT], effective 1 November 1991, with an aim to provide more entertainment, educational programs, and plays to television audiences. The programs will be as follows: 1200 GMT military songs and tunes
1215 GMT musical program
1230 GMT educational documentary program and plays
1300 GMT musical program
1330 GMT domestic news and weather report
1430 GMT international news
1500 GMT local or foreign movie or series or Burmese video programs.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Reaffirms Stand on Earth Summit

BK3010013691 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Malaysia is firm in its stand not to attend the Earth Summit in Brazil next year if the conference is aimed at finding fault with the developing nations, especially on the question of tropical forests. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said although his British counterpart, Mr. John Major, had persuaded Malaysia to attend to voice its opinion, it did not mean that in its absence, there will not be any positive views and ideas from the developed countries. He said Malaysia does not want the conference to concentrate on the wrongdoings of the developing countries and focus is only given to the question of the tropical forests.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said this at a press conference at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport on his return after attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, CHOGM, in Harare, Zimbabwe, and an official visit to Tanzania. He said that Malaysia will only decide to attend if there is an undertaking by the developed nations that the conference has produced positive ideas.

Johor Official on Island Dispute With Singapore

BK2810144191 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Oct 91 p 2

[Text] Johor Baru, Sat.—The Pulau [Island] Batu Putih ownership tussle between Malaysia and Singapore should not be dragged to the International Court of Justice as the republic has no strong ground to justify its claim.

Johor Baru Umno [United Malaysia National Organization] division chairman Datuk Shahrir Abdul Samad said the ownership of the island, which the Singaporeans referred to as Pedra Branca, "is not something to be disputed".

"It is not a border disagreement. It is about an island which is in Malaysian waters," he said.

Speaking to reporters before a forum on Pulau Batu Putih—Between Reality and History, organised by the Umno division's education bureau here last night, Datuk Shahrir said that it was "rather far-fetched" for Singapore to claim that the island belonged to them.

"The island is too far from the republic for them to claim ownership. If it is closer to them, perhaps their claim may have some basis."

The coral island, on which stands the Horsburgh lighthouse, is situated only 15km from Teluk Ramunia in Johor and 59km from Changi in Singapore.

The question of who owns the island was first raised in May 1989 when the Singapore authorities prevented Malaysian fishermen from Pengerang, Sungai Rengit, Kampung Melayu, Teluk Ramunia and Punggai from going close to the island.

Yesterday, however, Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba made it clear that Palau Batu Putih belongs to Malaysia and was ready to provide documented proof to the claim.

Last month, Singapore officially requested that both countries exchange documents in accordance with a 1981 agreement to enable the sovereignty of the island be resolved as soon as possible.

The republic said that should the matter still remain unresolved after that, it could be referred to the International Court of Justice for adjudication.

Datuk Shahrir said that just because Singapore was using the Horsburgh lighthouse there, it did not mean the island belonged to them.

"Singapore is merely manning the lighthouse to ensure the safety of ships in the area."

The republic is presently also administering two other lighthouses on Pulau Pisang and Pulau Merambong, off Pontian. Both the islands belong to Malaysia.

"We organised this forum not to politicise the issue, but to inform the people of the island's history so that they can have a clearer picture," Datuk Shahrir said.

About 200 people, mostly Umno members, attended the three-hour forum.

Editorial Discusses Cambodian Peace Accord

BK2810113191 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Oct 91 p 12

[Editorial: "(Sigh) Peace at Long Last?"]

[Text] The signing of Cambodia's peace treaty in Paris marks the beginning of the end to 13 years of civil war that began in 1978 when Vietnam invaded Cambodia, aiming to drive the Khmer Rouge from power.

It is a moment of weary triumph for the war-ravaged country. The reconciliation of Cambodia's four warring factions may very well be Cambodia's 'road map' to a neutral non-aligned state respectful of human rights in the future. The setting up of the Supreme National Council (SNC), a grouping of the four factions headed by former ruler Prince Norodom Sihanouk, to rule in tandem with the UN for about 18 months before democratic elections can be held is construed as an optimistic step towards the spreading of the democratic idea in a land which has seen more strife, anarchy and bloodshed than consensus.

But this optimism is still hesitant or tentative because there has been too much rivalry, too much deep suspicions and fears—which cannot be wiped out by a few signatures. There is also every reason to fear that some of the war-hardened guerrillas will not disarm.

Undoubtedly, it is a question of trust. But, it is a risk that all the factions must take—and quickly too. For what is at stake now is the shape and character of Cambodia's future. While distrust cannot be altogether eliminated, impatience is unwarranted and could even be pernicious.

All of the factions and the Cambodian people must ask themselves what kind of government they want and to become participants toward that end. Most importantly, they must realise that besides the interests that separate them from one another, there are also other interests that connect them to each other. And the SNC must be wise enough to identify and give these common interests paramount importance and the uppermost priority.

No one can yet be certain that the whole peace pact will not come apart. At the moment the signs are good, but only because the UN is sending in a monitoring force and a civilian contingent to run the country.

The UN will have a mammoth task of ensuring that all the factions comply with the terms of the treaty. With the UN's presence in volatile Cambodia to supervise the disarmament of the warring factions and to administer parts of the Government in a run-up to free elections in 1993, there is still hope that the factions will not turn their backs on the commitment to peace. A lot depends on all the factions as to whether UN peace-keepers will have to remain within the country beyond the period of eighteen months.

The policies and behaviour of the factions in the coming months will determine whether there must be strict supervision and monitoring from UN peace-makers, particularly if they are going to give the lie to their professed beliefs and carry on playing a game of hide-and-seek with peace—a state of mind that Cambodia has not known for a long time. The rival factions must not only put their guns and ammunitions down; they must also remove the barricades of hostilities and resist the reflex habit of making acrimonious charges against each other.

The fields of Cambodia will still kill because of the thousands of uncharted mines buried in them, but at least they will not become mass graves...or so everyone hopes. The peace treaty charts a course that offers not only Cambodians, but the whole of Southeast Asia an exit from the tragic antagonisms of the past.

Trade Minister on Foreign Investment Statistics

BK2910111791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 26 (AFP)—Malaysia has attracted foreign investments totalling 56 billion dollars (20.74 billion U.S.) since 1980, Rafidah Aziz, minister of international trade and industry, was quoted Saturday as saying.

The figure represents 51.5 percent of the total 108.8 billion dollars (40.3 billion U.S.) investments approved during the period, Rafidah told businessmen in Hamburg, Germany, late Friday.

For the first nine months of 1991, foreign investment in Malaysia amounted to 12.8 billion dollars (4.74 billion U.S.)—56.2 percent of total approved capital investments, she said in a speech released here Saturday.

This figure compares with 13.39 billion dollars (4.96 billion U.S.) for the corresponding period last year, said Rafidah, who is in Hamburg to discuss opportunities and encourage investment in Malaysia.

German investment in Malaysia remains low compared with that of Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, the United States and Britain, she said, although it follows only Britain among European countries.

Rafidah said it was Malaysia's policy to diversify its sources of foreign investment to avoid overdependence on its Far Eastern neighbours.

Singapore

Premier Opposes 'Populist' Trend for Government

BK2810104791 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Oct 91 p 1

[By Warren Fernandez]

[Text] The Government may be voted out of office unless the trend among Singaporeans to vote against it on short-term interests or single issues was checked, Mr. Goh Chok Tong said yesterday.

The Prime Minister said that if this trend continued, the Government would either have to resort to populist measures, which would be bad for the country, or risk being displaced.

Sounding this alert at a forum on the role of the community leaders in the Next Lap, he said that the Number One task for grassroots bodies was to help the Government bring home to the people the dangers of this trend.

He said: "If this trend continues, the Government will either have to turn populist, or risk the danger of being displaced.

"This Government will not become populist. Once we start appeasing those who show dissatisfaction, people will conclude that that is the way to get what they want.

"Very soon, we will end up having to appease all sorts of majority and minority groups, and every interest group."

If this happened, the Government would no longer be able to take long-term decisions for the good of the country, but like many parties elsewhere, it would have to focus its attention on the short-term goal of winning the next election.

"That will surely ruin Singapore, because instead of strong leadership with a clear vision, the Government has instead become a proxy for pressure groups. Pressure groups become the real government, and not those elected to form the Government."

Pointing to what he termed a "credibility gap" faced by the Government, he said that while it had to anticipate problems which might arise five, 10 or 15 years down the road, the average voter tended to only look at his immediate concerns.

"The trouble is that we think in a much longer time frame. We can see the problems far ahead but it is very difficult to explain these problems to the people because they can't see them.

"So they wonder why we are taking certain actions and they come to the conclusions that we are not listening."

Mr. Goh, who returned from Zimbabwe on Saturday, was speaking to about 250 grassroots leaders at the forum, held at the Marine Parade Community Club.

His speech was the second major statement from the Government in the last month on the role of grassroots bodies, seen as a vital organ for strengthening the Government's popular appeal. Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew spoke on the subject earlier this month.

Mr. Goh began his 25-minute speech by saying that the Government had won the people's mandate in the recent General Election and would proceed with the programmes in the book, Singapore: The Next Lap, the PAP's [People's Action Party's] election manifesto.

But he added that the PAP was still disappointed with its performance.

This was because it had done a lot for the country and had set out its programme clearly. But instead of encouraging the PAP, more Singaporeans were prepared to vote for the opposition.

He said that this trend would encourage all sorts of people to stand for election, adding that he had read that nine more professionals had decided to contest the next election on a Singapore Democratic Party ticket.

"These people feel that there is no cost to standing for elections. All you have to do is show that you are professional and if luck is with you, you could get in. So we will see more people taking on the Government.

"The big question is whether the electorate would continue to vote in candidates to form the opposition or whether they will realise the danger of doing so in a General Election," he said.

Making clear his apprehension about this trend, he said that while the Government would try to win the hearts of the people and modify policies where possible, it could not shy away from taking difficult decisions.

The people's willingness to support such decisions in the past was one of the secrets of Singapore's success, he said.

He noted that during his recent trip to Zimbabwe, seven countries had indicated their interest in sending delegations to study the housing, transport and education systems here.

An article in a South African newspaper had also urged the government there to emulate Singapore's education system, including its policies on streaming, independent schools, and its emphasis on mathematics and science.

"All these are surely indications that we are doing things correctly and doing the right things," he said.

If grassroots leaders agreed with the Government's programme and philosophy and believed it was doing the right things, they should have the courage to speak up in support of the Government, he said.

They should also try to understand the problems and constraints Singapore faced and urge the people to "think long-term more than short-term", he said.

Summing up the role of a community leader, he said: "A good community leader must lead. He should not just echo the Government or join in the chorus of criticisms.

"That means he must have an independent, inquiring mind and the courage to speak up in support of the Government and its programme."

He added: "If our vision is also your vision, then go out and rally the people to support that vision. That will be your role in the Next Lap."

Government Set To Allow Greater Press Freedom

BK2810103291 Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 27 Oct 91 p 20

[Text] The Government will give journalists more freedom, but will still draw the line between what the press can and cannot do.

Professor Tommy Koh yesterday described this as the government position as told to him by Minister for Information and the Arts George Yeo.

Prof Koh, director of the Institute of Policy Studies, was chairing a forum on the role of the press in The Next Lap.

He said that Brigadier General [BG] (Res) [reservist] Yeo wanted the Singapore media to blossom and be more analytical, sophisticated and outward-looking.

Drawing on golfing jargon, BG Yeo had told Prof Koh that the "OB (out-of-bounds) markers" had been moved, broadening the "fairways" within which play was allowed. But there were still boundaries, Prof. Koh said.

His remarks, to about 200 media professionals, civil servants, MPs and others, teed-off a discussion on present and future government-press relations which dominated the three-hour forum at the Hon Sui Sen Memorial Library auditorium.

In his keynote speech, Singapore Press Club president and STRAITS TIMES editor Leslie Fong said that so far the relationship had been one of mutual accommodation, made possible by goodwill, understanding and mutual trust.

"Sometimes it was possible to agree to disagree," he noted.

But, describing what he called the realities of journalism in Singapore, he added:

"The press laws and political culture are such that the Government, with a vast array of powers at its disposal, will not countenance the press taking any determined stand against it on any issues that it considers fundamental."

The Government does not own shares in the local newspapers but controls them through licences and the allocation of management shares under the newspaper and Printing Presses Act.

Mr. Simon Tay, deputy director of the Singapore International Foundation and one of the panel speakers, said that if the Government was confident that the right kind of people would be in place in the press, it might be time to think about loosening or fine-tuning the Act.

On the constraints that the press here had to operate within, Prof. Koh asked Mr Fong if he knew what they were or whether the press had to guess and exercise self-censorship.

Mr. Fong said that there was a general consensus between the press and the Government about the parameters.

Some, concerning race, language, religion, and regional relations were obvious.

"I do not need the Government to articulate that to me in so many words," he said.

A STRAITS TIMES reporter, Mr Cherian George, noted that the lack of explicit boundaries was in fact the genius of the system of government controls.

"The OB markers are not clearly defined until you cross them," he said.

Asked if this was the best way to encourage the evolution of a better press, panelist Mohd Ali Baksh, director of operations in the Ministry of Information and the Arts, replied that it was impossible to define the lines.

He added that it was contradictory for journalists to want more freedom and clear boundaries.

He predicted that goodwill between the Government and the press would grow, in line with the spread of "information culture" in the civil service and the political leadership's emphasis on public consultation.

But pressing the point, Prof Koh said that journalists were right to ask what were the subjects that in the past were off-limits but which were now open for legitimate discussion.

"As long as you are not prepared to say that, then these working journalists must constantly work under a cloud of fear," he said.

Joining in the discussion from the floor, Mr. Yatiman Yusof, MP for Tampines GRC [Group Representatives Constituency] and a former journalist, noted that while there were no clearly defined boundaries, senior journalists were aware of them, through long experience and interaction with leaders behiund closed doors. What seemed like self-censorship was actually the result of this, he said.

Former journalist Peter Lim said that what was important was how confident and skilful the Government was in managing the democratisation process here and leading Singapore into a future that the people wanted.

Mr. Lim, one-time editor-in-chief of the STRAITS TIMES Press group, urged journalists not to be impatient but to help the Government make the transition to a more open system.

"Hold back your punches...help the Government get used to a bit more freedom of expression. I think their heart is in the right place."

Longest-Serving Political Detainee Interviewed

BK2910063691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0616 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Singapore, Oct 29 (AFP)—The world's longest-serving known political detainee, Chia Thye Poh, saw no reason to celebrate Tuesday the 25th anniverary of his arrest under Singapore's Internal Security Act.

"This is not the day to celebrate. There is nothing to celebrate. This is the day I was arrested," Chia told AFP by phone from Sentosa Island, five minutes by ferry off Singapore's main island.

He said he would spend a quiet day alone, as he did not expect to receive any visitors or family members.

Tuesday is a working day, he said, and it would be difficult for anyone to find time to cross over to the tourist island which has been his home since May 1989 when he was exiled there.

Asked if he had received any mail in conjunction with his 25th year of arrest under the Internal Security Act, Chia said he did not know. "If I have received any letters, it will take me some time before they reach me," he said.

Chia, 50, a former physics lecturer and opposition member of parliament, was arrested October 29, 1966 amidst a wave of anti-Vietnam war protests by his Barisan Sosialis (Socialist Front) Party, now defunct.

He was held for 22-1/2 years under the Internal Security Act, which allows indefinite detention without trial in security cases, before being confined to Sentosa where he lives in a bungalow in the shadow of an amusement park monorail and restored mockup of an old British fort.

He is allowed off the island during daytime and calls on his parents most Sundays while carrying out his weekly shopping.

The Home Affairs Ministry, in its most comprehensive statement on Chia, contended this month that Chia was a subversive agent of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) and says it has no plans to try him.

But it insisted that Chia could walk free whenever he wants by renouncing the CPM and violence. He has refused to do, denying any such links.

"I cannot sign a statement that is a falsehood. I have to be true to myself at least," he said in an interview with AFP last week.

The ministry has expressed renewed wariness towards the CPM, despite its widely publicised move to abandon armed strugglearly two years ago.

"Thus the party organisation remains intact and so also is its ability to conduct subversive underground and United Front activities in which Chia Thye Poh was involved," the ministry said.

Trade Board Releases Figures for First 9 Months

BK2910100391 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Oct 91 p 40

[Text] Singapore's total trade for the first nine months of the year amounted to [Singapore] $163.7 billion, up 10.8 per cent from the same period last year, according to the latest figures from the Trade Development Board [TDB].

The increase was accounted for more by the rise in exports than by the growth of imports, with exports up by 12.5 percent to $76.9 billion while imports grew by a lower 9.3 percent to $86.8 billion.

Of the total exports, re-exports grew at a slightly faster pace than domestic exports. Re-exports went up 13.4 percent against 12.1 percent by domestic exports.

For domestic exports, oil grew by 15.9 percent compared with the 10.7 percent of non-oil exports.

The U.S. remained the largest market for Singapore exports, accounting for $14.8 billion in the first three quarters of the year. However, this was a drop of 2.9 percent against the same period last year.

Exports to Asia-Pacific countries recorded impressive growth rates. The most stunning was to Malaysia, Singapore's second largest export market, which grew by 38.7 percent to $12.1 billion.

Japan, the third largest export market, also registered an impressive 15.3-percnet growth to $6.6 billion. So too did exports to Hong Kong, the fourth biggest market for Singapore exports, which grew 22.9 percent to $5.4 billion.

As before, the largest source of imports was Japan. This grew by 13.4 percent to reach $18.3 billion.

The U.S. remained the second biggest source of imports for Singapore, but it expanded by only 3.6 percent to $13.7 billion. The third largest source of imports, Malaysia, grew by 32.1 percent to $13.5 billion.

TDB said total trade for last month was $17.4 billion, up 4.3 percent against the same month last year.

Exports totalled $8.5 billion, an increase of 6.2 percent, and imsports $8.9 billion, up 2.5 percent.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Continues Visit to Australia 28 Oct

Meets 'Top' Leaders

BK2910135991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] On the morning of 28 October 1991, His Excellency Hun Sen, prime minister of the State of Cambodia and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], his wife Mme. Sam Hieng, and his entire entourage toured the OCC Center, an Australian telecommunications company of international stature which has invested in Cambodia. John Malson, an OCC leader, showed the visitors the OCC operational networks and discussed the OCC's plan to further consolidate and expand its networks in Cambodia to enhance Cambodia's ability to communicate with foreign countries.

On the afternoon of the same day, the delegation traveled by special plane to the capital city of Canberra. H.E. [His Excellency] Senator Gareth Evans, minister of foreign affairs, and his colleagues greeted the delegation at the military airport.

Also on the afternoon of 28 October, the delegation headed by H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen, member of the SNC, had seveal busy meetings in succession with top Australian leaders at Parliament House, a gigantic 4,000-room palace.

At 1415, H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen had talks with H.E. Senator Gareth Evans, Australian minister of foreign affairs. At 1515, the two leaders held a joint press conference. At 1600, H.E. Hun Sen met with H.E. Hawke, Australian prime minister. At 1630, H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen met with H.E. Neal Blewett, minister of trade and overseas development. At 1730, H.E. Hun Sen met with General (Sanusson), an important leader of the Australian Armed Forces. At 1800, H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen attended a get-together with the Cambodian community during which he chatted with Cambodian residents of Canberra. On that occasion, he recalled the fact that the peace plan is known as the UN plan, but it is also a result of H.E. Senator Gareth Evans' initiative. H.E. Hun Sen said: Success always has many fathers, whereas failure is an orphan.

H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen also recalled the efforts made by Michael Costello, Australian deputy foreign minister who seconded U.S. Senator Stephens Solarz' proposal that the Nobel Prize be conferred on H.E. Senator Gareth Evans to honor his work on the Cambodian peace initiatives.

The Australian leadership said that, through the talks, H.E. Hun Sen displayed great courage and statesmanlike character. Based on these qualities, they expect H.E.

Hun Sen to play a very constructive role in implementing the accords on the way toward peace and stability in Cambodia. The Australian leadership also expressed its general concern over the violations of the accords by the Polpotists.

Dealing with humanitarian aid and economic cooperation, the Australian leadership stressed that, in addition to the emergency aid already handed over to the flood victims and displaced persons inside Cambodia, Australia will supply Cambodia with approximately $1 million worth of rice and a number of Bailey bridges. The aid will be transported by ship and will reach Cambodia soon.

Concerning economic cooperation for development, the Australian leadership stressed that it will coordinate its activity with other aid-donor countries.

At 1930, H.E. Gareth Evans hosted a grand banquet in honor of the delegation in which many high-ranking Australian personalities participated. The talks and the reception proceeded in an extremely cordial atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Accompanying H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen and Mme. Sam Hieng Hun Sen were Sok An, deputy foreign minister, Cham Prasit and Uch Kim-an, deputy ministers attached to the Council of Ministers, and a number of other officials.

Says Ready To Accept 'All' Refugees

BK3010120791 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1120 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 30 Oct (SPK)—The prime minister of the State of Cambodia currently on a visit to Australia declared to a high-ranking Australian official that he was ready to welcome all Cambodian refugees living in Australia regardless (of political affiliation).

During his meeting on Tuesday, 29 October, with the Australian minister of immigration within the framework of his official visit to Australia, which began on Saturday, 26 October, Mr. Hun Sen stressed that "the State of Cambodia is always ready to welcome all compatriots without distinction, be they displaced persons or refugees, so they can return to the nation."

On the same day, Mr. Hun Sen, who is also member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, and his wife paid a courtesy call to Mr. Bill Hayden, governor general of Australia. The Cambodian prime minister recalled the contacts between him and Mr. Bill Hayden back in 1985 when they were foreign ministers of Cambodia and Australia respectively. "At that time, I was only an obscure minister of foreign affairs," Hun Sen recalled.

Afterwards, the Cambodian prime minister and his entourage had a meeting with Senator Robert Hill of the (opposition) Liberal Party.

KPNLF Official on Renewed Phnom Penh Attacks

BK2910140091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1328 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Bangkok, Oct 29 (AFP)—Phnom Penh forces have resumed attacks on guerrilla forces in northwest Cambodia and have taken one frontline position, a guerrilla leader said Tuesday.

About 300 government troops attacked the village of Banteay Baos, about 40 kilometres from the Thai border, early Tuesday and captured it after an hour of fighting, said Ok Serei Sopheak, a senior official of the non-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF). "They are trying to push us back as much as possible before the United Nations get here," Ok said.

Shelling continued throughout the day in the area, about 15 kilometres (nine miles) east of the town of Svay Chek, the official said, adding that casualty figures were unavailable. "Logically, yes, we expect them to continue attacking us," Ok said. He did not know when U.N. personnel would arrive.

The conflict followed a four-day lull in the area, a week after Cambodia's four warring factions signed a peace treaty in Paris.

KPNLF troops said Friday in Banteay Baos they were expecting a Phnom Penh attack at any time. A KPNLF officer stationed in the village said that his troops were very short of ammunition with only a handful of shells and that some soldiers had as few as 20 bullets for their AK-47 rifles. "We have orders not to launch any attacks, but if they shoot at us I will shoot back at them," Major Kun Saloen said.

Khmer Rouge: UN Group Can Travel 'Anywhere'

BK2910131991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Oct 91 p A2

[Text] Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan said yesterday that the United Nations advance mission to Cambodia would be allowed to travel anywhere within Khmer Rouge-controlled territory to lessen suspicion of the guerrilla groups and demonstrate that it was abiding by the peace agreement signed last week.

"Only with their arrival will all the suspicion of the Khmer Rouge be removed. We will let them go anywhere they want," the guerrilla leader said.

His statement came in response to reports that the Khmer Rouge was forcing its camp followers at Site 8 in Thailand into areas it controls inside Cambodia despite the presence of land mines and a lack of food and medicine across the border. International relief workers charged that the guerilla group was trying to consolidate territory so it would have a strong base when general elections are held under UN auspices in 1993.

Speaking on his arrival at Don Muang airport from Paris yesterday, Khieu said his group and the other two Cambodian resistance factions were completely behind the full implementation of the UN-sponsored peace agreement and reiterated that the Khmer Rouge would not violate the pact.

Under the peace plan, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) will be responsible for overseeing the disarming and demobilization of most of the factions' fighting units and cantonment of the remainder.

Khieu denied the reports that the Khmer Rouge had forced people to return to Cambodia, saying his faction had no desire to duplicate the role of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in repatriating the displaced Cambodians.

However, he claimed that the reason some people had left for Cambodia was that the areas opposite the Khmer Rouge camps were fertile and the refugees wanted to return to farming.

"We don't force them, they just go," he said. "After more than ten years in camps, people do not want to return to their homeland just to face another camp but to areas where they can lead long- awaited normal lives."

He also declined to say whether the Khmer Rouge would allow the UN mission to inspect Site 8, claiming that as it was Thai territory it was not up to the Khmer Rouge.

In a related development, thousands of Cambodian refugees yesterday celebrated the coming of peace to their country at the Site 8 camp in Prachin Buri's Klong Hat district.

The refugees and several of their children marched no fewer than 5 km around the camp holding placards expressing their delight that peace has finally dawned in their motherland.

"Peace at last!" they shouted repeatedly in Cambodian as they sang, drummed and danced in joy.

"Many thanks to the United Nations and Thailand for having taken care of us and bringing peace to Cambodia," said a man through a microphone.

Many children joined the celebration without seeming to understand much about peace in their country as most of them were born at refugee camps in Thailand. They just quoted their parents as telling them: "We're going to return home."

Nevertheless, some children, when asked where their home was, simply pointed towards the direction of their temporary lodgings at the camp instead of naming their hometowns in Cambodia.

State Releases 442 'Political Prisoners' in Oct

BK3010052691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0457 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 30—The Government of the State of Cambodia released 1,034 prisoners this October. They included 442 political prisoners, 483 war prisoners, and 109 other offenders.

Sal Sakhan, official of the home ministry, said that more detainees, especially political ones, would be freed in accordance with the latest development in the country.

Vietnamese Communist Party Delegation Visits

Arrives 25 Oct

BK2810143891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1112 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 28—A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] arrived here on Oct. 25 to attend the inauguration of the Institute of Sociology built with Vietnamese assistance.

The delegation, led by Nguyen Duc Binh, Politburo member of the CPV Central Committee, was welcomed at Pochentong airport by Khoy Khunhuor, member of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Party and deputy president of the party's Commission for Propaganda and Education.

Vietnamese ambassador to Cambodia Ngo Dien was also present. The CPV delegation is scheduled to leave here today.

Received by Chea Sim

BK2910022891 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 26 October at the National Assembly, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and of the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, received a CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] delegation led by Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee.

On that occasion, H.E. Chea Sim expressed profound thanks to the Vietnamese party and government for assistance in building the Institute of Sociology, which had already been inaugurated, in the State of Cambodia [SOC] as a symbol of the bond of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam.

H.E. Chea Sim also informed the guests of the brilliant outcome of the CPP extraordinary national congress and the CPP political program, which is in line with the situation in the country and the final stage of national reconciliation, and aims at achieving genuine peace for the Cambodian people.

In his reply, Nguyen Duc Binh expressed profound thanks to the CPP and the SOC Government for providing facilities for him during his visit to the SOC and arranging this meeting with the excellency. He also voiced support for the CPP political program, which aims to achieve peace for the Cambodian people and to build an independent, peaceful, liberal, democratic, and neutral Cambodia marked by social progress.

[In a similar report, Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1120 GMT on 29 Oct 91 adds the following: "Chairman Chea Sim asserted that the recent signing in Paris by all Cambodian parties of a peace accord on Cambodia was a positive response to the time-honored sacred wish of the CPP and Cambodian people and constituted a new experience in the development of the Cambodian nation under the CPP leadership.

["The Cambodian leader, however, underlined that those achievements also stemmed from the enormous contributions of the Vietnamese party, government, and people. He thanked them all for their active support to the Cambodian party and people.

["In his reply, Nguyen Duc Binh indicated his high esteem for the diverse achievements scored by the Cambodian people. He reaffirmed the CPV's steadfast support for the CPP platform and the latter's constructive position on national reconciliation, peace, and justice.

["Present on that occasion were, among others, Ney Pena, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee, and Ngo Diem, Vietnamese ambassador to Cambodia.

["The CPV Central Committee delegation came to participate in the opening in Phnom Penh of the institute of sociology, which is the fruit of Vietnam's assistance to Cambodia and the symbol of the ties between the two parties and peoples. The delegation left Phnom Penh on 28 October at the end of its four-day visit to Cambodia. During its stay, the Vietnamese guests also visited the temple of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province."]

Chea Sim Explains Party Changes

BK2910150491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1313 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 29 (AFP)—The head of Cambodia's formerly communist party had a meeting with his Vietnamese counterparts to explain the Cambodians' recent reforms, the official news agency SPK said Tuesday.

Vietnamese Communist Party Politburo Member Nguyen Duc Binh led a delegation to the Cambodian capital over the weekend to meet with Chea Sim, the new head of the Cambodian People's Party. The Cambodians adopted a new, liberal platform at a party congress earlier this month. They elected Chea Sim to lead the party, changed their name from the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and adopted multi-party democracy. They also eliminated all references to socialism, Marxism and Leninism, endorsing instead a free-market economy.

Chea Sim explained the reasons for the changes to the Vietnamese leader, SPK said. Vietnam installed the Phnom Penh government after ousting a Khmer Rouge regime in 1979 and has supported it ever since. Vietnam's communist party has expressed its firm adherence to socialism despite sweeping reforms throughout socialist countries. But Bihn, in response, "expressed the firm support of the Vietnamese Communist Party for the Cambodian people's platform," SPK said. The Vietnamese delegation left Monday after a four-day visit, the report said.

Chea Sim Meets Lao, SRV Youth Delegations

BK2910033291 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] On 24 October at the National Assembly, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly, granted an audience to a Lao Youth Union delegation led by Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihan, member of the Lao Supreme People's Council and first secretary of the Lao People's Youth Union; as well as a Vietnamese Youth Union delegation led by Mr. (Le Chinh Hong), secretary of the Central Committee of Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, after they attended the second national congress of the Cambodian Youth Association.

Speaking on that occasion, H.E. Chea Sim referred to the CPP political program that was approved at the recent CPP extraordinary national congress, in which the CPP made historic changes and amendments to its political line in response to the reality of the situation, the nation's best interests, the people's aspirations, and the international trend. The party's political line has clearly displayed its goodwill and its desire to bring about peace and national reconciliation to rally all forces, particularly youths, who are regarded as the bulwark of the nation.

H.E. Chea Sim also expressed his high regard for the bond of friendship and solidarity between the three Indochinese countries—Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos—a bond which stems from their past struggles against the common enemy—and stressed the need to further preserve and improve the traditional relations and cooperation of the three countries. He also appealed to all youth organizations across the world to contribute to national restoration and construction in order to produce genuine peace.

In reply, Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihan and Mr. (Le Chinh Hong) expressed great pleasure at seeing the comprehensive development in the State of Cambodia [SOC] and the rapid changes of the people's life.

The two delegations also congratulated the extrabrdinary national congress and his excellency on his taking office as the chairman of the CPP Central Committee and stressed the stance of the Lao and Vietnamese parties and governments in fully supporting the SOC party and government and their readiness to help the Cambodian people in their efforts to achieve genuine peace.

Heng Samrin Greets Fidel Castro on Reelection

BK2910094491 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 29 Oct 91

["Message of greetings" from His Excellency Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee, to H.E. Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee; date not given]

[Text] On behalf of the Cambodian People's Party and the Cambodian people and in my own name, I would like to express sincere congratulations to you on your reelection as first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee. I firmly believe that, under the clear-sighted leadership of the PCC with you at the head, the brotherly Cuban people will surely achieve brilliant successes in implementing the resolutions of the fourth congress of the PCC and in carrying out their sacred duty in the defense of the motherland and socialism.

On this most significant occasion, I would like to express satisfaction at the development and consolidation of the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two parties and peoples.

Clearing Minefields Said 'Impossible Task'

BK2910105191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1132 GMT 25 Oct 91

[By Laurent Mailard]

[Text] Paris, Oct 25 (AFP)—So many land mines have been laid so haphazardly throughout Cambodia over the last dozen years of civil war that clearing the country of minefields is an impossible task, experts here said Friday.

The cleanup operation will be a major task facing the UN Temporary Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) when it tries to clear the way for the return of some 350,000 refugees living in camps along the Thai border. According to humanitarian organizations operating there, 200 to 300 Cambodians a month undergo amputations after stepping on mines.

The entire country, Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said, is "practically saturated" with mines. Millions of mines have been laid not only along border regions, one expert said, but "wherever guerrilla forces operated—that means everywhere." Most of them are small, sophisticated, all-plastic anti-personnel devices that are impossible to find with classic metal-sensitive detectors and must be uncovered through the slow process of probing, he said.

Furthermore, he said, they were laid at random by isolated guerrilla units on damp, jungle-covered tropical terrain that changes with every rainy season. It would take a team of four or five bomb disposal professionals about three hours to clear a 100 square-meter (1,100 square-foot) area, the expert said.

It is not know how many sappers will be in the UNTAC military contingent, but seeing the high cost of the UN operation, it is unlikely to exceed a few hundred out of a total force of some 2,500. "The best the disposal experts can do," he said, "is clear corridors and establish security zones in the perimeter of villages."

Even such limited action, he said, will be very long and further slow the repatriation proces. To give an idea on the number of the explosives that litter the country, he said disposal units had recently defused nearly 6,000 mines on a stretch of road only one kilometer (0.6 mile) long, near the Thai border.

Two French humanitarian groups, Doctors Without Frontiers and Handicap International—which specializes in assisting mine victims—called this week for an international effort to solve the problem, saying UN means will definitely be inneficient. "It is difficult to see how disposal work can be conducted in time in areas to which the refugees are supposed to return from the beginning of next year," said a spokesman for Handicap International.

The only solution, a French expert said, is to train Cambodians to defuse the mines—a method used successfully in Afghanistan after the 1989 withdrawal of Soviet troops. It would take "two to three weeks to properly train someone," to defuse a mine, the expert said.

Still, the cost in human lives could be high: International organizations put the death toll during mine disposal operations between 1979 and 1984 in Cambodia's Svay Rieng province, near Vietnam, at about 3,000. Under such conditions, experts said, it is highly likely that many regions will never be cleared and simply declared off-limits "danger zones," as in parts of Afghanistan, Egypt, and Kuwait.

UNESCO Director To Visit 28 Nov-1 Dec

AU2510162491 Paris AFP in English 1527 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Paris, Oct 25 (AFP) — UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor is to visit Cambodia from November 28 to December 1 at the invitation of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of the Supreme National Council.

In a statement, Mayor said that UNESCO hoped to set up educational and cultural programs in the war-torn country. The UNESCO official also said he would make a joint appeal with Sihanouk for financing for restoration of the Angkor Wat temple complex.

Mayor welcomed the peace agreement on Cambodia signed here Wednesday [23 October] and called it a "great victory" for the United Nations.

4,121 Returnees Reported Over Past 9 Months

BK2510124091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Excerpt] During the first nine months of this year, the proselytization committees throughout the country, along with the local authorities and people, welcomed 4,121 returnees. These returnees include 2,233 polpotists, 1,052 sonannians, and 746 sihanoukists [all figures as heard]. They turned over 2,074 metric tons of assorted weapons and a large quantity of war materiel to local authorities. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

Alatas Downplays Portuguese Visit's Cancellation

BK2910110391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1012 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Jakarta, Oct. 29 (ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas is optimistic that the postponement of the planned visit of a Portuguese parliamentary delegation to Indonesia will not affect Indonesia's image in the international forum.

"Indonesia's image would not be affected by this problem," he told newsmen after emerging from a meeting with Coordinating Minister of Economy, Finance, and Industry Radius Prawiro here on Tuesday.

"There is no reason for Indonesia to be too concerned about Portugal's decision. One thing we are now fighting for is the principle and the national pride, and not merely a problem concerning a decision to reject or not to reject the entry of a journalist," he said.

Considering the Indonesian refusal for the inclusion of an Australian journalist in the Portuguese parliamentary delegation, the president of the Portuguese legislative assembly has decided to put off the East Timor visit.

According to Alatas, Indonesia has been struggling for and facing the East Timor issue for years and many things have been done to meet international demands.

"Jill Joliffe could write hundreds of articles, but we would not be disturbed," Alatas insisted.

"The problem is that what we are struggling [words indistinct] the previous agreement between Indonesia and Portugal in which each party may exert its objection if there is a disagreement on the list of journalists to be included in each delegation," Alatas said.

Ruling Party Issues 12-Point Policy Outline

BK2910120791 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 21 Oct 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The ruling Golkar [functional] group suggested on Saturday that a national policy be formulated to prevent monopolistic practices and the emergence of economic forces which would decrease economic opportunities for small businessmen.

"Golkar therefore will endeavour to enact special legislation for the protection of small and medium-scale businessmen," the group noted in a poslitical statement issued at the end of its leadership meeting here.

The 12-point political statement also touches upon Pancasila's ideology, Pancasila-based democracy, national development, people's participation in development, Pancasila-based democracy, the armed forces' role, minimum worker wages and education.

—Ideology: Golkar, realizing that the implementation of Pancasila (state ideology) in the nationhood and statehood still needs improvement, is determined to step up efforts to make Pancasila, an open ideology, the truly concrete foundation for the development of the national political culture. In connection with this, Golkar will continue to strive to improve the function and role of the supreme and high state institutions, and social and selfhelp organizations.

—Democracy: Golkar is determined to enhance the implemesntation of Pancasila democracy by increasing the role and participation of the people in political development. Golkar therefore called on all eligible voters to take part in the June 9, 1992 general election.

—National development: In facing the second long-term development (25 years starting in April 1993), which is the continuation of the present first long-term development, Golkar will develop new dimensions which are rational, modern and conducive to the environment by optimizing science and technology.

Decentralization

—People's participation: The people's participation in the national development should be increased, and government agencies should improve their quality in a bid to build up a clean and credible government. Golkar will continue to strive to improve the pay of civil servants.

—Regional development: Since regional development is an integrated part of the national development, Golkar will see to it that regional autonomy will be strengthened and regional development will be stepped up by mobilizing local resources. In light of these objectives, well-directed and coordinated efforts should be taken to enhance decentralization (of plannsing and decision making) that emphasize economic autonomy on district administrations.

—Economic democracy: Golkar is determined to strengthen the economic democracy based on the family principle whereby private, state enterprises and cooperatives become the backbone of the economy. Business partnerships should therefore be developed between the three main economic groups.

—Monopoly: Golkar considers it imperative to formulate a national policy designed to prevent monopolistic practices and the emergence of economic forces which decrease business opportunities for small businessmen. To achieve this objective, legislation for the protection of small and medium-scale businessmen should be enacted. In the meantime, however, efforts should be continued to improve the climate for domestic and foreign investments and to discourage capital flight.

—Social solidarity: To enhance social solidarity, Golkar opposes businessmen who do not fulfill the rulings on minimum wages and worker layoffs.

—Human resources. Since education is the key to human-resource development, Golkar urges improvement in the quality of education in all its aspects.

—Religious harmony: Golkar calls for further strengthening of religious harmony and solidarity and the nurture of national culture values which support hard work (work ethos).

—Dual functions: Golkar fully supports the dual functions of the Armed Forces as history has proven that ABRI [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia] has always struggled together with the people and for the people and that its roles in defense/security as well as sociopolitical fields have always been very effective.

Philippines Seeks To Expand Military Cooperation

BK2910120991 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 21 Oct 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The Philippines military has called for a joint training scheme with the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia (ABRI) to be expanded later into joint exercises.

Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia, the visiting Commander of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, told reporters after meeting President Suharto Saturday that he had discussed the issue with ABRI chief Gen. Try Sutrisno.

"I have discussed ... the possibility of joint cooperation in training, and maybe in the future on joint exercises," Gen Abadia said.

Abadia said he was very much impressed with the progress made by the armed forces of the other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). "We, in the Philippines are trying to catch up," said the general, who had already visited Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand prior to Indonesia. He was to proceed to Brunei from here.

There was no immediate response from Gen. Try who accompanied Gen. Abadia during Saturday's courtesy call to the Merdeka Palace. He said however that the Philippines regularly send its officers to the National Defense Institute (Lemhanas) and to the various military command schools in Indonesia.

Gen. Abadia also briefed Suharto on the upcoming general elections in the Philippines and expressed the gratitude of his government and people for Indonesia's assistance for the victims of the recent eruption of Mount Pinatubo.

Gen. Try, in reply to a journalist's question, said the problem of the U.S. military base in the Philippines, whose lease was recently extended, was not discussed during the courtesy call.

"We all know that ASEAN has an understanding, and we stick to our position as stated in the Bangkok declaration," he said, referring to the 1967 statement on the establishment of ASEAN in the Thai capital. ASEAN members at the time agreed that the presence of any foreign base in the region should be temporary and the host country should decide on the schedule for its phasing out.

"ASEAN upholds the principle of peaceful coexistence and of not meddling in one anothers' affairs, of mutual trust and of fostering coperation. So we understand the question of the U.S. base in the Philippines," he said. "The matter is the responsibility and authority of the Philippine people alone."

Gen. Try also said that the Indonesian Armed Forces would foster mutually beneficial cooperation with their counterparts in ASEAN through exchanging information, and studying one anothers' military doctrine and exchange of personnel at field commander level.

Suharto Affirms No Bank Share Discrimination

BK2310122491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0958 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 23 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto has said that there would be no discrimination in the share ownership of the Islamic Bank Muamallat Indonesia (BMI) so that all Indonesian Muslims, rich or poor, had the same rights to purchase its shares. The president made the remarks at his meeting with the chairman of the Indonesian Ulemas Councils (MUI) Hassan Basri here on Tuesday.

Hassan Basri told reporters that the establishement of the bank was initiated by MUI which held a meeting with the head of state on August 27 to discuss follow up steps for the materialization of the plan. President Suharto agreed during the meeting to provide three billion rupiahs in support of the bank's foundation. He also promised to invite Muslim leaders to a meeting in the Bogor Palace on November 3 to discuss efforts to collect funds for the bank's capital.

Hassan Basri said that his council had held a meeting with 85 Muslim leaders on October 13 and succeeded in collecting 55 billion rupiahs. Research and Technology Minister B.J. Habibie, who is president director of a number of state-owned firms, also promised to provide five billion rupiahs.

Up to now, the amount of funds collected for the setting up of Bank Muamallat Indonesia has totalled 64.1 billion rupiahs. It is expected that Muslim leaders at the

Bogor meeting would agree to contribute 35 billion rupiah so that the bank's first capital would reach 100 billion rupiahs.

Hassan Basri explained that there had been no parties who expressed opposition to the establishment of the bank, saying that the United States Ambassador to Indonesia John Monjo had even met him to ask for information on that matter.

In the meantime, MUI banking team chairman Rahmat Saleh said BMI was expected to start operation in the second quarter of next year. The former trade minister and governor of Bank Indonesia Rahmat Saleh said Zainul Bahar Nur—a former Pacific Bank official—had been appointed president director of BMI. Rahmat Saleh was appointed chairman of board of commissioners of the BMI, assisted by board members such as Omar Abdalla and Sukamdani Sahid Gitosarjono.

Textile Industry Complains About Energy Cuts

BK2210133391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0652 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 22 (AFP)—The Federation of Indonesian Textile Industries (FITI) complained Tuesday of serious power cuts and estimated that textile production could fall by 15 percent as a result. In a press release, FITI said that at least 100 of its members in Java have already complained of chronic power cuts this month.

It said the power cuts, up to twice weekly for 24 hours each time, had seriously disturbed the schedule of textile companies which must meet export delivery deadlines. Textile production could fall by some 15 percent a month if the cuts continue, it added.

The FITI's remarks came as the state power company PLN disclosed that it would soon start rationing electricity to industries in the capital Jakarta.

The Jayakarta newspaper quoted PLN's director of operations, Suyanto, as telling representatives of 136 industries in the Jakarta area that their electricity would be cut for a whole day every week. "PLN is forced to do this because the conditions are currently very critical," Suyanto said.

He said critical water levels at hydroelectric dams in West Java had greatly limited PLN's electrical production, and the cuts were needed to prevent the collapse of the whole Java-Bali power network.

Indonesia has experienced a severe drought this year, and tropical rains which are supposed to fall in early October to signal the start of a new wet season did not occur. PLN officials have said that hydroelectric plants, which provide 22 percent of PLN's total power supply, have to cut back operations to no more than four to five hours daily because of the low water levels.

Under a load management scheme being prepared by PLN, a roster will be made to determine which industries will go without electricity on which days, Suyanto said. He called on the industries to make use of weekends, when electricity demands are much lower, to make up for the lost day of production. Suyanto could not say when the cuts would start nor how long they would last.

Khmer Rouge Sincerity About Peace Questioned

BK2910142391 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 25 Oct 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Peace in Cambodia"]

[Text] It is part of the Cambodian tragedy that even at a time of imminent hope such as this, the shadow of doubt continues to hang over that war-ravaged land.

On paper at least, the four years of negotiations between the four warring factions held with the help of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and other concerned countries, including Indonesia, have finally paid off. On Wednesday at a United Nations-sponsored peace conference in Paris, representatives of 19 nations put their signatures on the historic accord that has finally put an end to two decades of civil war.

One would ardently hope that peace will now definitely settle on this country of eight million, which surely has suffered more than any other on earth. Not since 1970 when a military coup led by the U.S.-backed Gen. Lon Nol upstaged the government of Prince Norodom Sihanouk has Cambodia known the meaning of peace. During those past two decades about two million Cambodians are estimated to have lost their lives to violence. More than half a million survivors live as refugees in various camps. From 1975 to 1978 alone when the genocidal Khmer Rouge turned the country into one vast killing field, an estimated 1.5 million Cambodians are believed to have been murdered or tortured to death. Even today the marks of those horrendous years have not all disappeared.

In the sense that a viable opportunity has now finally appeared to let good will and common sense prevail and statesmanship excel for the sake of the well-being of all of the eight million Cambodians, there is much truth in the words spoken by French President Francois Mitterrand at the opening of the Paris conference on Wednesday. A dark page in the history of Cambodia has been turned, the French president said. The return next month of Prince Norodom Sihanouk to Phnom Penh's presidential palace "will be the symbol of the renaissance of Cambodia, of the reconciliation of all Cambodians."

Obviously, it was at least to a large degree the world's radically changed political constellation that has made peace in Cambodia possible. One of the obvious things about the Cambodian conflict was always that no negotiated solution was possible unless China was willing to cease support to its client group, the Khmer Rouge, or Phnom Penh was willing to accept the Khmer Rouge as a full-fledged political partner. With the Soviet Union having extricated itself from Vietnam and Cambodia and with rapprochement between Moscow and Beijing an actuality, both the Khmer Rouge and Phnom Penh are finding themselves with no option other than to soften their stand.

The big question now is the sincerity of the Khmer Rouge in accepting the conditions improsed by the treaty. Given the group's historical and ideological record, one can be forgiven for doubting the truthfulness of its leader, Khieu Samphan, in pledging to honor the Paris accord. For all the setbacks, the Khmer Rouge is still the strongest armed group in Cambodia with an estimated 10,000 to 13,000 guerrillas. Many Western diplomats, for example, have reportedly raised fears that the Khmer Rouge may be hiding huge caches of weapons while bidding its time for the right moment for their use to arrive. Their attempts in the past days to forcibly repatriate some 40,000 refugees from the camps along the Thai-Cambodian border have obviously not helped to assuage those fears.

Nevertheless, it could well be true that the only hope the Khmer Rouge has of coming to power is by force. If that is true—and the assumption is not altogether lacking in plausibility—then Cambodia's biggest hopes are in the likelihood that world developments will continue on their present course and, obviously, in the effectiveness of the United Nations' surveillance efforts.

Laos

Delegation Returns From PRC Friendship Visit

BK2910144091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] After concluding its official friendship visit to the PRC, which lasted over 10 days and came in response to an invitation by the PRC Ministry of Public Security, the Interior Ministry delegation led by Major General A-sang Laoli, member of the party Central Committee and interior minister, returned to Vientiane Capital with reports of brilliant success on the morning of 28 October.

On hand to welcome the delegation at Wattai Airport were Maj. Gen. Khamphon Boutdakham, member of the party Central Committee and deputy minister of interior, and a number of high-ranking cadres.

KPL Group Visits PRC, Meets With XINHUA

BK3010035291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] A KHAOSAN PATHET LAO [KPL] NEWS AGENCY delegation has ended a visit to the PRC. During the visit, it reached an agreement on bilateral relations and cooperation with the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY of China. Vanthong Phomchanheuang, director general of the KPL NEWS AGENCY, and (Li Qing), director general of the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, jointly signed the agreement on technical cooperation in Beijing. According to the agreement, the news agencies of the two countries have agreed to exchange information. In addition, the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY has agreed to give a set of satellite news receivers to the KPL NEWS AGENCY and to help KPL install the receiver system so that it can receive news from the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY.

In addition to meeting with a XINHUA NEWS AGENCY delegation and discussing cooperation in technical and other spheres, the KPL delegation visited some industrial and agricultural production establishments and some historical places in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou cities. It returned home on 28 October after ending its 10-day PRC visit.

Joint Cultural Festival With Thailand Concludes

BK2910095491 Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Vientiane, Oct 29 (KPL)—The Vientiane-Nong Khai cultural festival held on October 25-27 in Nong Khai (Thailand) has ended.

The cultural festival, the second after the one held last year between Lao Khammouane and Thai Nakhon Phanom Provinces, was for cultural exchanges promoting friendship between Lao and Thai people, in particular those of Vientiane and Nong Khai.

Several sports competition events such as football, rattan ball, volleyball, basketball, badminton, tennis, table tennis and boat races were held between sport teams of the two provinces, in addition to art performances. Also exhibition and trade fair of handicraft and fine art items were opened.

Hydroelectric Dam Construction Projects Described

BK2910051491 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Until now, planning and costs for the construction of the Phamong Tam and Nam Theun Two hydroelectric dam projects have not yet been completely worked out due to certain complications in the surveys and the final design stage. According to the study, based on the completion of the initial preparatory stage, the project could require as many as four years. [sentence as heard] The Mekong Committee conducted the initial study and surveys for the construction of the two projects in 1988, but, it still cannot work out a plan or estimate the costs of the construction. (?This has resulted from) the changes in the technological, economic, social, and political fields.

Dr. Kithong Vongsai, chairman of the Lao National Mekong Committee [and chairman of the International Interim Mekong Committee for 1991], has reported that the two projects—the Phamong Tam and the Nam Theun Two—will have substantial effects in the economic and social spheres. He said: As much as $14 million or so is needed for the final stage of surveys. The construction of the Phamong Tam hydroelectrical dam alone could require as long as 11 years and as much as $2,000 million for the dam to be capable of producing

10,660 megawatts of electricity. In addition, it is necessary to remove as many as 40,000 people from the construction site.

As for the Nam Theun Two project, it too requires at least $600 million, and the construction will take five years. This dam, when completed, will be capable of producing 4,650 megawatts of electricity. It is also necessary to remove as many 2,000 people from the area of construction. Dr. Kithong Vongsai also reported on the plan of the Mekong Committee to carry out the surveying and designing work in the next stage. [passage indistinct]

Philippines

Finance Secretary Rejects U.S. Criticism of Aid

HK3010140691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1325 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Manila, Oct 30 (AFP)—Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao lashed out Wednesday at U.S. criticism of the Philippines' use of foreign aid, saying Washington had yet to deliver on several pledges of development assistance.

Estanislao was reacting to a reported statement by special U.S. envoy Elliot Richardson that Manila had little to show for the billions of dollars already pumped into the economy and that an accounting should be made.

While describing the reports as exaggerated, Estanislao conceded that Richardson had told him earlier this month that "we can present a better, coherent picture of what (foreign aid) has done: Not merely in numbers, but more in concrete, specific dimensions that people can more easily relate to."

The finance secretary said he accepted Richardson's suggestion "that we must do more than merely project numbers."

However, he said critics should first "savor the facts as they are, and before disparaging, one should give the other side an opportunity to present his side of the story."

He said that while the United States had pledged 200 million dollars in 1989 under a World Bank-managed multilateral aid initiative (MAI) to revive the moribund Philippine economy, this was subsequently reduced to 159.3 million dollars, of which only 25.65 million dollars had been released.

"He might have checked from (the U.S. Agency for International Development) how much has actually been released and why so little has been released. He could have heard an earful," Estanislao said.

He added that while Washington had pledged another 160 million dollars in a second donors' meeting in Hong Kong early this year, "agreements already signed come up to only 120 million dollars" and "no releases have thus far been made."

The finance secretary said he was not trying to belittle Washington's contribution to this former U.S. colony, but only to show that "nothing in the real world of ODA (official development assistance) is instantaneous."

He said Manila did not relish the occasional "bitter dregs from a cup dished out to a developing country in need of long-term assistance," and stressed the need for Manila to "move up very quickly to a higher plane through efforts and successes on our own."

The MAI has raised 6.8 billion dollars in grants, concessional loans and other forms of financial assistance. Official data show Manila has used 1.6 billion dollars.

The government of President Corazon Aquino has asked the World Bank to host a new pledging session in Hong Kong in February to raise two billion dollars to rehabilitate areas damaged by the eruption of the Mount Pinatubo volcano.

But Philippine Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia said over the weekend that the World Bank was hesitant and had instead suggested a consultative session to review Manila's use of the assistance.

Alcuaz Suggests CIA 'Using' Him in Plot

HK2910152891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Oct 91 p 8

[By Romy V. Mapile]

[Text] Jose Luis Alcuaz, former national telecommunications commissioner, who claimed to have knowledge of an alleged plot to kill military rebel and opposition leaders, said yesterday that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) may be using him.

Alcuaz said the plot was disclosed to him as early as last December in a hotel in Manila by Jack Terrell, an alleged CIA agent, who let him listen to a tape recording of the assassination proposal.

Terrell admitted taking the money for the murder contracts, as played on the tapes, but he hoped to back out on the deal and, instead, wanted Alcuaz to blow the lid off the plot.

Alcuaz said he met with Terrell again in the U.S. last January and the same proposal was reiterated to him. Last May, Terrell came to Manila and gave him a copy of the alleged plot tape, he added.

Alcuaz said he was waiting for the right time to expose the plot in the local papers, but various issues, like the U.S. bases talks, the return of Imelda Marcos, the election fever and the crime wave hogged the news.

Terrell's last visit to the Philippines was in August, but in between these trips, they talked frequently by long-distance telephone, Alcuaz said. "I was careful never to use my own phone on these calls," he said.

Alcuaz admitted that on several occasions, he played the tape for some friends in the Philippines, but it was Terrell himself who negotiated with the American Broadcasting Corp. (ABC), a big U.S. TV network, in New York for the airing of the tape on a televised broadcast.

Efren Mercado, Alcuaz's lawyer, said there is no way his client can be held liable if a libel suit is filed against the authors of the broadcast because all Alcuaz did was replay the tape on radio and television, later.

Without commenting on the suggestions of "liability-after-the-fact," Alcuaz said that, meanwhile, if he was being used by the CIA, he was also using the CIA.

Memorandum Reveals Aquino Knew of Plot

HK3010012291 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Another chapter in the Terrell expose came to light after a confidential memorandum, stating that President Corazon Aquino knew of the assassination plot against rebel soldiers before it was revealed by American mercenary Jack Terrell, was presented to the Senate.

The memorandum was written by Severina Rivera, former Presidential Commission on Good Government counsel, and was addressed to Senate President Jovito Salonga. In her memorandum, Rivera said Manglapus and the president discussed the planned assassination of the government's enemies when they were on their way to Japan to attend Emperor Akihito's coronation in August 1990. Manglapus reportedly told Terrell that he discussed the assassination plot with the president for three hours.

Furthermore, Rivera said she was able to talk to Terrell the day after the American Broadcasting Corporation aired his revelation. The memorandum also mentioned that the Department of Foreign Affairs secretary suggested Terrel use light antitank rockets to target former Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos' sleeping quarters at Ayala Alabang. These rockets are capable of destroying a two-story building.

Military Rebels Reject Aquino Call To Reconcile

HK3010023791 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Rebel soldiers have turned down President Corazon Aquino's call for reconciliation, saying that the government should take the first step in reforming the elite-dominated political system, which they described as corrupt. The Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance of the Masses [RAMM] issued a statement claiming that no meaningful political changes will take place as long as the military is used simply to support and consolidate a corrupt and treacherous elite class.

RAMM also asserted that the country and the people have long been betrayed by their leaders. It claimed that the Aquino administration is a governing class devoid of ideas which either ignores or violates the national interest.

The rebel soldiers also accused the Aquino government of violating the constitution when it failed to comply with the Senate's decision to reject the Philippines-U.S. bases treaty.

The RAMM statement was distributed at the annual convention of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association at Camp Aguinaldo, where President Aquino was the guest speaker.

Defense Secretary Optimistic on Peace Talks

HK3010043091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 Oct 91 p 8

[By Ben Rosario]

[Text] Acting Defense Secretary Renato S. De Villa said yesterday that there is "still a chance" that the peace negotiations with ultra-rightist rebels will succeed but this must be solved "within the policies and parameters indicated by the Commander-in- Chief".

De Villa made the statement in the wake of reports that top coup leader Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and other rebel leaders have not yet abandoned plans to topple the government through rebellion.

Honasan's statements triggered public speculations that current reconciliation talks initiated by the government with the coup plotters are doomed to fail.

De Villa said the government will find it difficult to end the ultra-rightist problem if "the other side is asking a very, very high price for it."

"We want to solve the ultra-rightist group problem but we want to solve it, withint the policies and parameters indicated by the Commander-in-Chief," he explained.

The defense chief was apparently referring to an eight-point demand sought-by the RAM-KSP-YOU [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officer's Union] secretariat, describing it as bordering on an attempt get a share of power in ruling the country.

One demand reportedly sought by Honasan's group is the granting of general amnesty to all junior military officers and enlisted men who participated in attempts to oust President Aquino from power.

The government stressed thta its peace offer with the URG's [Ultra-Rightist Groups] should be based on "reconciliation with justice."

De Villa said the military has recommended that the deadline set for the rebels to accept government peace offer is the end of October.

He clarified that talks with rebel leaders have not been suspended and will remain ongoing, even if former first lady Imelda Romualdez-Marcos arrives.

Last weekend, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff Gen. Lisandro Abadia told reporters that negotiations with rebel leaders have been placed "on hold" to allow the military to concentrate its efforts on the arrival of Mrs. Marcos.

Four Rebel Soldiers Return to Military Control

HK3010023891 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Four more junior officers who were involved in the failed military coup d'etat of December 1989 returned to the military's control in October. The four were identified as Captain Percival Abu, and First Lieutenants Ruben Noble, Reynaldo Padua, and Gener del Rosario—all members of the Philippine Army.

The government has placed a bounty of P [Philippine pesos] 300,000 on rebel soldiers' heads.

Meanwhile, a congressman on the House Defense Committee has suggested to President Corazon Aquino that she convene the Cabinet Committee on Security and Political Affairs in order to revise the proposed *eight talking points* which were submitted by former Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan's group to the government.

Congressman Bonifacio Gillego said that, before President Aquino turns down the Reform the Armed Forces Movement agenda, the president should first convene the committee so it can study the *talking points* presented to the government.

Communist Front Sets Off Explosions in Davao

HK2910115191 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF] Davao has admitted its responsibility for a series of explosions in the province. This was announced by Angelio Zapanta, NDF Davao spokesman. No one was injured from the explosions, but some establishments were damaged, and electricity was cut off in Davao City due to the damaged electric poles and lines.

Communist Rebels Claim 41 Soldiers Killed

HK3010041691 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Oct 91 p 1

[Text] Communist rebels yesterday claimed killing 41 government troopers, including a police major, and shooting down three helicopter gunships in Northern Luzon from Sept. 29 to Oct. 20 this year.

Meanwhile, the National Democratic Front [NDF] and the New People's Army [NPA] denied Monday the Dutch government allegations that their headquarters in Utrecht was a base for attacks on American targets in Europe and the Philippines.

"The NDF and the NPA, a member organization, have no policy or practice whatsoever of carrying out military operations outside Philippine, territory against anybody," the group told REUTER.

In a statement sent to the INQUIRER, NDF spokesman Noli Libertad identified the slin police officer as Maj. Tito Samson, Nueva Vizcaya assistant provincial superintendent and commander of a police strike force.

Libertad said Samson was killed in an ambush staged by the Dr. Juan Escandor Regional Command in Barangay Antutut, Kasibu, Nueva Vizcaya last Oct. 19.

Libertad claimed Col. Antonio Ruiz, Nueva Vizcaya police superintendent, headed the government forces when they were ambushed.

The NDF spokesman also said the Escandor Command Destroyed the Consolidated Logging and Lumber Corp. (CLLC) sawmill in Jones, Isabela, last Oct. 15. The CLLC, according to the NDF, is a dummy corporation of Isabela Gov. Faustino Dy and the Rodriguez group.

In Marag Valley, Libertad said the Catalino Balmores Command in Cagayan killed 30 soldiers and wounded 30 others from the 503rd Army-brigade in a series of encounters from Sept. 14 to Oct. 20 this year.

He said the Balmores Command also shot down three military helicopters, including two MG 250 gunships.

In Ilocos Norte, Libertad said the Fr. Zacarias Agatep Command destroyed a detachment manned by troopers from the 73rd Infantry Battalion and militiamen last Oct. 19. He said one soldier was killed and four others were wounded in the two-hour rebel attack on a military outpost in Barangay Canaan, Vintar, Ilocos Norte.

There was no immediate confirmation of the rebels' claim.

Yesterday, the NDF denied Dutch government allegations that it is using its headquarters in Utrecht as a base to launch attacks on Americans.

The Dutch government said it suspected The Netherlands was being used as a bse for attacks after Dutch television showed Dutch and US security service agents trying to buy information from a suspected Filipino rebel.

The interior Ministry defended the action, saying it believed the Dutch-based exile could provide valuable information about the NPA.

The NPA has killed 10 Americans since 1987 in a campaign to oust U.S. forces from the Philippines and set up a Marxist state.

The NDF, a communist-led umbrella organization for leftist groups, has been outlawed by the government.

Army To Strengthen Counterinsurgency Forces

HK3010051591 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 30 Oct 91 p 12

[Text] To keep a tight rein on the insurgency, the military aims to transform the present 3,000-man Special Forces regiment into a 7,000-strong battalion in 1992.

In an interview with BUSINESS WORLD, Philippine Army chief Maj. Gen. Arturo Enrile said the aim is togain strategic control over the communist insurgency by next year.

He said the recent modifications in the Armed Forces of the Philippines' (AFP) campaign plan, the Lambat-Bitag [Net Trap], transferred the control of the Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGUs) to the Special Forces. "In effect, they become cadres," he explained.

The rationale behind the move, he said, was the need to keep the territorial forces, in this case the CAFGUs, well-organized and well-trained.

"The Special Forces can do this job better than anyone else," Gen. Enrile confidently said.

The military's assessment this year of the counterinsurgency operations has shown a weak link in two phases of the campaign plan. While the operations to clear affected areas of insurgents have been successful, the holding and development stages showed cracks.

Under Lambat-Bitag, regular forces of the military will first clear an area through armed operations. After this is the holding phase where territorial forces are tasked to ensure that the cleared area will remain just that—a cleared area. They will wait for the arrival of other government agencies to develop the area.

The assessment has been that after an area is cleared, there were some CAFGU units who jumped ship for one reason or another. This prompted AFP chief of staff Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia to say that the counterinsurgency operatin was not progressing well.

Gen. Enrile was confident that at least the problem on the holding phase would be corrected in time to achieve the military's goal of strategic control.

The development phase, however, will still depend on Government's capability to respond to the challenge of providing livelihood in the affected areas as well as infrastructure.

Aquino Forms Committee on Bataan Nuclear Plant

HK3010054691 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 30 Oct 91 p 12

[Text] Malacanang has heeded calls from various sectors for it to look into the lender-liability angle in the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant case. In Administrative Order No. 246 dated Oct. 25, President Aquino created a three-man committee "to investigate and determine all the facts and circumstances regarding the alleged illegal act or involvement of certain financial institutions in a fraudulent transaction with Westinghouse." The committee is composed of outgoing Justice Undersecretary Eduardo G. Montenegro as chairman, Jaime L. Guerrero, vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on the Philippine Nuclear Power Plant (PCPNPP), and Adolfo S. Azcuna, chairman of the Philippine National Bank, as members. Mrs. Aquino required the committee to submit its findings and recommendations within 30 days starting last Oct. 25. The committee was given all investigative powers under the Administrative Code. While welcoming the move, Senator Rene A.V. Saguisag, chairman of the Senate ad-hoc committee on the BNPP, cautioned against using the committee "to expedite a basis for the inclusion of the nuclear power plant debt papers in the buyback scheme being pressed by our debt negotiators." He said the group should coordinate with the Senate Blue Ribbon committee which is now investigating the matter, the PCPNPP and the legislative-executive foreign debt council. He added the 30-period to come up with findings may be shot. The Senate started last week its own investigation on the lender-liability angle and has subpoenaed documents relating to the case from the National Power Corp., Citibank N.A., and Washinghouse.

Supreme Court Asks Why Eviction Notice Recalled

HK3010053491 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Oct 91 pp 1, 12

[By Roy S. de Guzman]

[Text] The Supreme Court yesterday ordered Malacanang to explain why it withdrew the "notice of termination" of the military bases agreement which it served on the United States last September.

In a full-court resolution handed down yesterday, the high tribunal, ordered Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon and Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to defend the legality of a note verbale sent last Sept. 17 by Manglapus to U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner.

In that letter, Manglapus informed Wisner of the executive department's decison to withdraw the termination notice until Filipino officials agree on a "phase-out" period for U.S. bases located in the country.

The moved enable the U.S. government to keep its military bases here despite the lapse of the bases pact last month. The pact expired last Sept. 16, the same day the Senate voted 12-11 to reject the new base treaty extending the presence of U.S. troops in the country for 10 years in exchange for $203 million from the U.S. government.

Drilon, who allegedly approved Manglapus' act after receiving direct orders from President Aquino, and Manglapus were given 190 days by the high court to state their position on the issue.

Solicitor General Francisco Chavez, who will likely defend the executive department in the case, was also furnished a separate copy of the resolution.

The petition questioning Manglapus' act was filed last month by human rights lawyer Ulpiano Sarmiento III, his law partner Janeiro Maningat and law student Arlyn Dimal.

The petition was first dismissed by the Supreme Court after it pointed out that the petitioners failed to comply with court rules requiring that a certified true copy of the questioned government orders should be attached to their petition.

Early this month, Sarmiento and his two other colleagues refiled the petition after complying with the requirement.

Aside from questioning the withdrawal of the notice of termination of the bases pact, the petitioners also asked the high court to clarify if U.S. bases can remain in the country despite the Senate's rejection of the new base treaty.

The petitioners claim Malacanang's bid to delay the U.S. bases' withdrawal from the country is "unconstitutional," citing the constitutional provision that U.S. bases can legally remain in the Philippines only up to Sept. 16, 1991.

The high court, however, stressed in its resolution that it was not yet giving "due course" to the petition. It meant the high court can still decide to summarily dismiss the case even without discussing its merits after receiving the Palace officials' reply.

Not one of the 14 members of the Supreme Court objected to the issuance of the resolution. However, newly-appointed Associate Justice Flerida Ruth Romero abstained from taking part in the case while another justice, Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera, was on leave when the issue was taken up.

Aside from the Sarmiento petition, the high tribunal received three other bases-related cases in the past two months. But all three cases werre dismissed outright by the high court, raising speculations if was trying to evade the bases issue.

Reports Conflict on Imelda Marcos' Arrival Date

Official: Date Still Uncertain

HK3010052291 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Following varying reports about the true date of former First Lady Imelda Marcos' return to the country, Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III clarified the arrival date today. Philippine Airlines had reported that the airplane rented by Mrs. Marcos is scheduled to arrive in Manila on Sunday 3 November, while Mrs. Marcos' spokesman (Sol Vanci) from New York said that the former first lady would arrive on Monday 4 November.

[Begin Gomez recording] The truth of the matter is that the application for landing rights that Evergreen International Airlines, a chartered company, filed stated their plan to land at Ninoy Aquino International Airport on the afternoon of 3 November, a Sunday. But it was not noticed that, in the same line, they were seeking another 72 hours allowance in the event they should be delayed. In other words, Imelda may arrive any time within a 72 hour period, the three days between the afternoon of 3 November and the afternoon of 5 November. That is possible. Our understanding is that her companions are applying for passports from different consulates in the United States. [end recording]

Airport Manager Says 3 Nov

HK3010093191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Ed Carrascoso, Ninoy Aquino International Airport [NAIA] Authority general manager, said that he received an official notice from Evergreen Airlines that Imelda Marcos will be arriving on 3 November at 15:00 [0700 GMT] in the afternoon. Carrascoso said that the the Department of Foreign Affairs also gave him this information. Nevertheless, Carrascoso explained that there is a very large possibility that the former First Lady's flight might be delayed, or it might come in 24 hours earlier. Here is part of NAIA General Manager Ed Carrascoso's statement:

[Begin recording] [Carrascoso] Actually, that was the flight plan submitted by Evergreen Airlines. Now we are using the term window, meaning that it might be delayed *plus and minus 24 hours.*

[Anchorman Joe Taruc] But that was not mentioned in the press release, and it created some confusion.

[Carrascoso] That is why I am telling you now that is usually the terminology used for... [end recording]

Meanwhile, the Aquino government has established four conditions for former First Lady Imelda Marcos' return on Sunday, 3 November. Here is Rey Arquiza, DZRH Unit 21, with more details:

[Begin Arquiza recording] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus announced that former First Lady Imelda Romualdez Marcos' arrival on Sunday afternoon will depend on four conditions. According to Manglapus, the conditions are as follows: First, she must arrive in broad daylight and not in the evening. Second, the plane that she takes must not contain the remains of the late former President Marcos. Third, the government must immediately receive a copy of the plane's manifest. Fourth, the original allowance of 72 hours was reduced by 20 hours. In a news briefing, Manglapus admitted that the Department of Foreign Affairs gave the jumbo jet clearance to land at NAIA on Sunday. According to Manglapus, if Mrs. Marcos' plane contains the late former President Marcos' remains, the remains will immediately be sent back to their point of origin. According to Manglapus, we have a law that says any undocumented passenger will be sent back to their point of origin and they will not be allowed to enter the country. [end recording]

New York Consul Says 4 Nov

HK3010114891 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] The Philippine consul general in New York has confirmed that Mrs. Marcos will arrive in the Philippines on Monday, 4 November. It is expected that the airplane carrying the former first lady will land at about 0700 [2300 GMT] in the morning.

This was contained in a message from Consul General Rodolfo Arizala, which was relayed by Jay Sonsa, our colleague who is currently in Honolulu standing by for Mrs. Marcos' arrival there. Arizala also sent this message to Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon. According to Arizala, the former first lady will go to Honolulu tomorrow and will remain there until 3 November.

Meanwhile, Mrs Marcos has denied that she will return on a chartered Evergreen Airlines flight. She said she will return to the country on a scheduled Philippine Airlines flight, PR105.

Executive Secretary Says 4 Nov

*HK3010063891 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0515 GMT 30 Oct 91*

[News conference by Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon with unidentifed reporters from the Malacanang Press Corp at the Kalayaan briefing room in Malacanang—live, in English; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpt] [Drilon, in progress] ...(Rizala) from New York, on our previous instruction, for him to meet with Mrs. Marcos on the details of her arrival. (Rizala) reported to us his conversation with Mrs. Marcos as follows: According to Mrs. Marcos, she is leaving New York on Thursday 31 October for Honolulu to spend All Saints Day in Honolulu; and, on November 3, 1991 she, accompanied by her aides and friends, would leave Honolulu for Manila, arriving in Manila at 7:00 AM [2300 GMT] of November 4. She does not know yet whether she will travel by commercial airline or by chartered airline or by any other means such as the offer of a U.S. Air Force plane. According to Imelda Marcos, the U.S. Air Force offered her a plane. [passage indistinct]

Imelda claims that she could be ferried by a U.S. Air Force plane, so maybe you can confirm that with the U.S. Embassy. She reiterated that Dean Antonio Coronel is the contact person, that in case the Philippine Government does not approve the landing of a chartered plane at the NAIA [Ninoy Aquino International Airport], she has booked seats in a commercial plane also arriving in Manila on 4 November 1991. Okay?

Now, we also would like to announce that we have instructed the Air Transportation Office [ATO] and the CAB [Civil Aviation Board] and the DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] to approve the request of the charterer or the entity requesting permission to land the chartered plane here. And, in a communication dated 29 October 1991, Assistant Secretary Oscar Alejandro of the ATO issued a memo to Skyplan Operations of Canada as representative of Evergreen International Airlines that the request for the landing of a chartered airplane on November 4 is approved is subject to the following conditions:

That no human remains shall be carried on board; that the window for possible delay shall not be more than 24 hours; and, for security reasons, the arrival in Manila shall be during daylight hours; and, that the following persons should not be allowed on board: Fabian Ver, Erwin Ver, Rexor Ver, and Wyrlo Ver.

Except for these [changes thought]...so the request for landing was approved with these conditions. Very simple conditions, so if the appropriate clearances are already issued to Evergreen International Airlines for one B-747 200 aircraft. [sentence as heard]

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] They are considered by our armed forces as risk to national security. [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] Another chartered plane, one operated by Air Atlantic Icelandic, has also requested landing rights. She has several aircraft. [preceding two sentences in Tagalog] This aircraft type is L1011-100, Lockheed. The cargo is approximately 400 passengers, including Imelda Marcos and her late husband, so we are imposing the same conditions that no remains will be allowed on board.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] The expected date of arrival of this charter is 4 November. Monday, sometime on Monday. I do not know the hours because it is [word indistinct] time.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] It is here. She says she will consult her advisers and lawyers and will let the government know her complete itinerary regarding her trip to the Philippines. When? I do not know.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] Deadline for the itinerary? We are not imposing any deadline and we are not making it a condition for her return, that she gives us the itinerary.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] [passage indistinct] We did not approve because of the late inclusion of the remains. As we said in the first one, we will approve this on the condition that the remains are not included. Including the second one, if the conditions are the same as the first one. The approval is subject to those conditions as in the first request for clearance.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] We do not know. Maybe two, maybe three, maybe one. I do not know how many will land.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Drilon] Anyway, I assume they have the resources to pay for these chartered planes. [passage omitted]

Liberal Party To Hold Convention 11 Jan 1992

HK3010061091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] The Liberal Party [LP] will hold its convention on 11 January. This was announced by LP President Jovito Salonga. More than 50 candidates will attend to contest for 24 senatorial slots. The convention will be attended by more than 4,000 members of the party and will be held at the Araneta Coliseum. The party's presidential standard bearer for the 1992 election will also be chosen at this convention.

Thailand

New Intellectual Property Department Approved

BK3010015191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Oct 91 p B 10

[Text] The Commerce Ministry is planning to ask the Customs Department to intercept pirated books, cassette tapes and films at ports of entry to curb their passage through Thailand as a centre for illegal import and export.

According to Yanyong Puangrat, deputy director-general of the Business Economics Department, the measure being considered is in addition to the permission accorded to the Customs Department to delay clearance of goods at port if the products are suspected of violating the trademark law.

The Cabinet has meanwhile approved the setting up of an intellectual property department under the Commerce Ministry to be responsible for the increasingly important issue.

Deputy Commerce Minister MR Pridiyathon Thewakun told reporters after the meeting yesterday that the newly-created department will register and protect intellectual properties, including patents, copyrights, trademarks and trade secrets.

An earlier proposal for the creation of a similar department was rejected by the economic ministers on the ground that separation of responsibilities between agencies in charge of intellectual property rights protection had not been defined.

The new department will encompass the Trademark and Patent divisions of the Commercial Registration Department, and those working on copyrights and enforcement in the Fine Arts Department of the Education Ministry. A workforce of 152 people will be transferred to the new department.

So far, a number of trademark owners, who have registered their logos with the Commercial Registration Department, have signed in their trademarks at the Commerce Ministry as reference for customs officials to act on goods shipments suspected of trademark infringement.

The case of copyright violation is more difficult to handle because it is hard to judge whether violation has actually taken place. Unlike owners of trademarks, copyright owners in Thailand are not required to register their rights with the authorities. Therefore, it is difficult to prove the legitimate ownership of the rights, sources said.

The difficulty in identifying the products in question as infringing upon a copyright might complicate the prosecution and cause damage to traders, if the shipments withheld from suspicion are later found to be alright, they added.

Yanyong said the ministry is considering extention of the measure to protect only a few types of copyrighted products at this stage. These include music tapes, books and films.

The Commerce Ministry's regulation empowering the Customs Department to freeze shipment and clearance of goods suspected of violating the trademark law was issued in August 1989. But so far not a single registrant has requested the authorities to take action.

Yanyong urged trademark owners to file a complaint with the authorities so that a test case will be established. A source said most companies whose trademarks are being copied or counterfeited do not beleive that the measure would be effective.

Moreover, the petitioners will be required to place deposits if investigation is requested. The deposit will be returned if the shipment is found to contain copied products. If not, the money will be handed over to the traders whose products have been withheld.

According to the source, the requirement has discouraged trademark owners from filing a complaint seeking redressal.

With increased difficulties in copyrights, the source said, the new measure, if approved, is likely to become similarly unpopular with traders.

The enforcement of copyright law in Thailand has been a problem for quite some time. But the issue has received unprecedented attention only recently as pressure from major trading partners, particularly the United States and the European Community has increased.

The number of lawsuits filed by original copyright owners has risen significantly in recent years.

Although several major manufacturers of pirated music and video tapes in the country have been ferreted out by a special police force, production and sale of pirated products still flourish.

The situation has [been] aggravated because an increasing portion of domestic production of copied products is being destined for overseas markets, forcing the authorities to look for ways to stop international trade in pirated products.

Asa Views Cambodia Agreement, Temple Massacre

BK3010072491 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin informed reporters at Government House this morning about the latest development on the investigation into the killings of Thai monks at a Thai Buddhist temple in Arizona.

He said that to date he has not received reports on the progress of the investigation. In any event, the authorities concerned have relentlessly been trying to follow up on the case, added Asa.

Asked about a general election to be held in Cambodia after the cease-fire takes effect, the foreign minister said it is the internal affairs of Cambodia which does not involve Thailand.

Commenting on peace establishment in Cambodia, he said Thailand hopes that peace would be quickly restored in that country following the signing of the Cambodian peace agreement reached by all the Cambodian factions recently in Paris and witnessed by representatives of a total of 19 countries.

VOFA Comments on Paris Peace Accord

BK3010070191 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 28 Oct 91

["Special article": "The Signing of the Treaty on Cambodia's Peace and Democracy"]

[Text] A historic and very important event concerning peace and tranquillity in Southeast Asia, particularly with respect to the Indochinese countries, took place on 23 October. That event was the signing in Paris of the Cambodian peace treaty by leaders of the four Cambodian factions and the treaty's endorsement by the foreign ministers of 19 countries in the presence of French President Francois Mitterrand and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. This is a very important step toward ending the Cambodian civil war in Cambodia which has lasted for 12 years since 7 January 1979.

The civil war in Cambodia actually began more than two decades ago, if one takes into account the first era of civil war which began in March 1970 when Field Marshal Lon Nol seized power by toppling Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's government. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk was forced to form a government in exile and joined forces with the Khmer Rouge to defeat the Lon Nol side to regain power in April 1975. The Khmer Rouge remained in power until 1978. By that time, the Heng Samrin group had turned to Vietnam and their combined forces captured Phnom Penh, toppling the Khmer Rouge. Samdech Sihanouk once again joined hands with the Khmer Rouge to fight the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin side, a struggle that has lasted until now.

The signing of the Cambodian peace treaty by the leaders of the four Cambodian factions in Paris not only ends the civil war but also aims at establishing a democratic and free economic system in Cambodia. Following the signing, a UN observer team will travel to Phnom Penh to set up a temporary authority to administer Cambodia in the lead up to general elections. A UN force will also supervise the cease-fire and accept arms to be surrendered by the various Cambodian factions in accordance with the agreement which reduces the armed forces of each faction by 70 percent.

The Heng Samrin side earlier organized a special session of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and resolved to discard the party's communist ideology and adopt democratic principles instead, change the party's name to the Cambodian People's Party, and elect Chea Sim as the new party chief in place of Heng Samrin. Chea Sim declared there will be a multi-party election in accordance with the democratic system, and Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed his support for Prince Norodom Sihanouk as Cambodian president in an election which will be held soon. In addition, Prince Sihanouk is scheduled to return to Phnom Penh on 14 November as president of the Supreme National Council [SNC], which comprises representatives of all four Cambodian factions, to lead the reconstruction of the country.

These preparations have been undertaken in anticipation of the peace treaty which was signed on 23 October and have made Cambodia the first Indochinese countries to dissociate itself from the communist administrative system in favor a democratic system which permits the existence of opposition parties, freedom of expression by the people, and a free economic system.

The Cambodian peace treaty (?consists of) four agreements. First is the comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian conflict and sets the guidelines for the role of the United Nations, including the dispatch of the UN forces and civilian authorities to prepare and conduct free general elections. This is the most important agreement.

The second agreement defines the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, inviolability, and neutrality of Cambodia which the four Cambodian factions promise to the world community and the world promises to Cambodia. The third agreement concerns reconstruction of Cambodia and amounts to more of a communique or a political protocol between Cambodia and the 18 countries at the Paris conference than a real international legal commitment. The fourth agreement amounts basically to the conference's preamble and a protocol that carries no real significance.

The significance of the Cambodian peace treaty lies in the assignment of an unprecedentedly great role to the United Nations to conduct surveys, perform as a neutral body to resolve any differences which may occur, assist and repatriate Cambodian refugees, as well as draft a constitution and prepare for free general elections. It is expected that the whole process could take 18 months and will cost between $1 and 2 billion in international donations.

It is certain that peace in Cambodia and an end to the fighting between the various factions will benefit the neighboring countries, especially Thailand which has been burdened with housing some 350,000 Cambodian refugees in six camps. It is anticipated that after the signing of the peace treaty in Paris over half the Cambodian refugees in Thailand will volunteer to return home. However, a survey by a Washington-based private organization shows that obstacles to the Cambodian peace agreement remain. They include doubts by the three Cambodian factions about the Khmer Rouge's sincerity in its participation in the SNC and its willingness to abide by the peace treaty; the presence of many landmines, malaria, army deserters, and bandits; food and medicine shortages; and the ideological differences among the four Cambodian factions. Any of these could pose a major obstacle to peace in Cambodia.

In any event, we hope that every Cambodian faction will strictly and sincerely respect the steps stipulated in the peace treaty for the sake of an end to civil war which has decimated an entire people and property and in the interest of the restoration of peace in Southeast Asia, fraternal cooperation, and the development of individual countries.

Columnist Discusses Thai-Cambodian Relations

BK3010022991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Oct 91 p A8

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon: "High Time Thailand Strengthened Khmer Ties"]

[Text] The Cambodian peace accord marks the beginning of the post-war Thai-Cambodian relations—which would require painful adjustments to old problems and new prospects.

Old problems that will continue to plague the two countries would undoubtedly be the fate of the 350,000 Cambodian displaced persons waiting for proper repatriation and the Khmer Rouge's legacy.

Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin put it gingerly that the world should not forget the problem of repatriation with the end of the Cambodian war. He said those who are stranded inside Thailand must return as they are an important human resource to help develop the new Cambodia.

In his speech at last week's signing ceremony in Paris, he said Thailand will cooperate with the Supreme National Council (SNC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the orderly return of all Cambodian displaced persons, "without residual problems left for countries of temporary refugee." What he meant was quite simple: Thailand will see to it that all Cambodians are out of the country as soon as possible. "With peace in Cambodia, the international community will look elsewhere and ignore the problem at the Thai border," said a Thai official, negotiating for the future repatriation plan.

Asa said Thailand will sign an agreement of repatriation with the UNHCR and the SNC during his scheduled visit to Phnom Penh on November 20. Thailand has already set up a representative's office in the Cambodian capital which opens early next month.

Thai delegates to the Paris conference expressed the hope that the peace accord will be scrupulously implemented by all Cambodian factions. "Any break down in the peace accord will affect Thailand," said a senior Thai official.

Prime Minister Hun Sen made clear last week any delay in the repatriation plan would further affect the election and would allow the Khmer Rouge to carry out its own repatriation outside the UN framework.

Hun Sen's concern was well taken by the Thai officials who met with the Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan immediately following reports that the communist guerrillas were trying to send back displaced person under its control.

For different reasons, both Phnom Penh and Bangkok want to see all displaced persons return to their homeland with jobs and incentives that would make them want to stay.

For Phnom Penh, as long as the Cambodian displaced persons remain in their respective camp along Thai-Cambodian border, they would be under the control of the resistance groups. The faster they return home and reintegrate into the community the better for Phnom Penh.

For over a decade Thailand has been dealing with the problem of displaced persons. Now that the Cambodian war has ended, the problem of displaced persons may not go away any sooner than expected. In fact, Thai officials fear that the "residual" problems could be worse than during war time. "In peacetime, it will be quiet at the eastern front," said the official, meaning international attention will no longer focus on the area.

Besides the displaced persons, the price Thailand has to pay is the Khmer Rouge. After years of using the guerrillas as pawns in the war against Vietnamese occurpation, Thailand will soon find the Khmer Rouge is here to stay. Its top leaders such as Pol Pot, Ta Mok and Ieng Sary are likely to remain at the Thai border, with followers who could prove to be a force to be reckoned with. Ieng Sary, for one, openly admitted to a French magazine recently that he prefers to stay in Thailand.

The Khmer Rouge's grass roots presence at the border is certainly going to be an irritant to Thai-Cambodian relations in months, if not years, to come—especially during the interim period. Given its close ties with the local security apparatus, free movement and contact would continue. Thailand has yet to announce to the world that it has stopped helping the Khmer Rouge.

A long-held rationale behind Thailand's firm support of the resistance groups has been to incorporate the Khmer Rouge into any political settlement. Now with the peace accord, Thailand is still in the dark as to how to handle the Khmer Rouge. More and more communist guerrillas are studying the Thai language ready for a long-term objective—to be assimilated into the Thai community along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Some Thai officials have began to realize the harsh reality that even with peace in Cambodia together with the UN peace keeping force, some of the Khmer Rouge followers will still choose to remain in Thailand. "Nobody wants the Khmer Rouge, even China, which of course can get away with it," said the same Thai official.

Thailand, along with ASEAN countries, would like the UN to dispatch peace-keeping forces as soon as possible to ensure peace and stability in the interim period. "A period of 10 months is too long, anything can happen," Asa said. The UN special envoy, Ahmad Rafiuddin told the Paris conference it would normally require at least 10 and a half months for a complete development of UN international forces.

With the peace accord also come the new opportunities for Thailand in Cambodia. Asa said Thailand will do everything it can to be "a staging area" for UN peace operations and subsequent international efforts to reconstruct the war-torn country. To accomplish this objective, Thailand has to cross one last hurdle—its own rudderless businessmen and traders.

Although Thailand moved quickly to mend its ties with the Phnom Penh government as the peace process progressed, Bangkok is still behind in many respects, in comparison with France, Australia and Japan. Bangkok has to strengthen its relations further if it is to have any impact on future relations.

Attempts must be made quickly to break the monopoly held by a group of furtive Thai traders, who have made a fortune out of Cambodia, thanks to the lack of government contact in the past. For years, they strengthened their relations with Phnom Penh leaders. Sad but true, hardly any aspect of current Thai-Cambodian relations can escape their scrutiny and interests. It used to be strictly that only trade and investment issues fell into the hands of these traders. However, with Phnom Penh's expansion of relations, slowly their influence is being felt in official bilateral negotiations.

With five months to go, the Anan administration can lay a good and solid foundation for Thai-Cambodian relations in years to come by offering generous technical assistance, especially in the health care area, without waiting for the outcome of the elections. The delay will not only protract the much-needed assistance to a neighbour, but it will jeopardize Thailand's place in Cambodia.

Thailand has never had any healthy relations with Cambodia in their modern history not to mention the past. Now is the time to forge a new friendship that is based on equality and mutual interest and respect. To do so, the Thai people must be encouraged to learn about Cambodia's rich culture and its aspiration to Thai heritage, especially in literature, court and language. Otherwise, future Thai-Cambodian relations would develop on the shaky grounds of exploitation and discrimination.

Talks With SRV Minister, PRC Governor Noted

BK2910153191 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Deputy Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister At Taolanon held discussions with Vietnamese Minister of Agriculture and Food Industries Nguyen Cong Tan on 28 October. The minister reported that Vietnam proposed five areas for agricultural cooperation. They are: rice cultivation and marketing; integrated animal farming, such as chicken and pig raising (Vietnam wants to export pigs to Thailand;) the vegetable and fruit processing industry, such as vegetable and fruit canning (the Thai private sector has already set up in Vietnam a factory for producing condensed pineapple juice;) and finally, the cultivation and export of orchids.

Minister At said Vietnam proposed technical cooperation and capital investment between the private sectors of both countries. Minister At said he proposed to Vietnam that this should be part of a pact on fishing cooperation, or it could be made into a pact separately, in order to serve as a concrete framework for Thai investors, giving them confidence in investing in Vietnam.

On the same day Minister At also received the governor of Zhejiang, Ge Hongsheng, at the ministry. The Chinese official, who was on a visit to observe agricultural development in Thailand, expressed interest in seeing greater cooperation with Thailand as Thailand has made a big achievement. He also wanted to see joint investment between Thailand and China. Minister At said he told China that Thailand can also learn from China's knowhow and progress in agriculture, especially in rice cultivation. China has rice strains with higher yields and is competent in cross-breeding.

Thai-Vietnamese Communique Issued 30 Oct

BK3010122791 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 30 Oct 91

["Gist" of joint Thailand-Vietnam Communique on Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet's official visit, issued on 30 October in Bangkok]

[Text] Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet was granted an audience with His Majesty the King. He held official discussions with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun on bilateral relations and various issues at the regional and international levels. The atmosphere during their discussions was friendly and constructive, demonstrating how the relations between the two countries have evolved.

The Thai prime minister expressed pleasure with the first visit by a Vietnamese prime minister to Thailand in 13 years, which signifies the beginning of a new era in relations between the two countries based on mutual trust for the benefit of the people of both countries and stability in Southeast Asia.

Both sides shared the desire to see Cambodia peaceful and maintain good relations with its neighbors and other countries. Thailand was pleased that the Vietnamese Government decided to formally join the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia which will contribute to stability, peace, and fraternity in the region.

Both sides reviewed development of bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with the rapid progress. On this matter, both sides reaffirmed the spirit of the principle of good neighborly relations as appeared in the joint Thailand-Vietnam communique dated 6 August 1976 and the joint communique dated 10 September 1986 and agreed to refrain from any action that would negatively affect each other's security.

On Vietnamese people who fled to Thailand after the war in Indochina, the Vietnamese side is pleased that Thailand will find a permanent solution by considering Thai citizenship for them on grounds that because they have lived in Thailand for some time they should become part of Thai society and law abiding citizens of that country.

Both Thailand and Vietnam feel that fishery cooperation will generate mutual benefits and agree to further consultation on the matter so that an agreement on fishery cooperation could be signed quickly. They agree to begin negotiations on issues involving their common sea boundary before the end of the first quarter of 1992. Both sides attach importance to the role of the joint commission and feel that strengthened trade and economic cooperation will bring mutual benefits to the two countries and their people, while Thailand hopes that the Vietnamese economy could develop and strengthen as a result. The agreement on investment promotion and protection was signed and the memorandum of understanding on development and sale of natural gas was initialed. Both sides agreed to broaden cooperation in the cultural, scientific, technical, personnel training, tourism, physical education, and sports fields and were in favor of increasing exchanges of visits in various levels.

The Vietnamese prime minister thanked the Thai Government and people for the warm reception given the Vietnamese side during the visit. He invited the Thai prime minister to make an official visit to Vietnam; the Thai prime minister accepted with pleasure and the date will be fixed later.

SRV Premier Ends Visit, Departs for Singapore

BK3010140291 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] SRV Premier Vo Van Kiet and his delegation left Bangkok International Airport at 1900 today. They were sent off by a Thai delegation led by M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, the minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office. The SRV premier and his delegation are scheduled to travel to Singapore.

Anan 'Satisfied' With SRV Counterpart's Visit

BK3010140091 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun has said that he might visit Vietnam at the invitation of his Vietnamese counterpart in mid-January or early February.

Speaking to reporters after signing the joint Thai-Vietnamese communique, the prime minister said he was satisfied with the discussions during the visit of the Vietnamese prime minister, noting that Vietnam was sincere in its desire to cooperate with Thailand and was ready to forget the past and begin cooperation for the benefit of peace in the region.

[Begin recording] [Anan, in progress] We want to move toward creating peace in this region and building cooperation in the economic, trade, political, cultural, and all fields. The climate in this region has changed considerably. Therefore, I envisage the beginning of an era of cooperation not just between Thailand and Vietnam, Thailand and Laos, or Thailand and Cambodia but in the bilateral and multilateral levels in the interests of peace and good understanding in the region benefiting the people in every country.

[Unidentified reporter] When do you plan to visit Vietnam?

[Anan] I have formally accepted the Vietnamese premier's invitation to visit Vietnam. I feel that both sides will be quite busy until the end of this year and, therefore, I think I might be able to make a visit sometime in mid-January or early February. [end recording]

Suchinda Affirms Readiness for Good SRV Ties

BK3010135191 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] General Suchinda Khraprayun, army commander in chief and supreme commander, visited the Border Patrol Police Headquarters this afternoon. Commenting on Thai-Vietnamese relations, he said we are ready to have good relations with Vietnam. If Vietnam is sincere in establishing good ties, we will forget the past, he said. Asked about his belief on how good a friend Vietnam could be, the army commander in chief said that he could not talk about his belief. From analysis, the chances of Thailand and Vietnam becoming good friends is as high as 70 to 80 percent. However, he could not comment on the rest.

There has never been any friction between Thailand and Vietnam militarily and they have never fought each other directly. The fishery problem was just a matter the two neighboring countries leveled at one another. The army commander in chief said good relations between the two countries will contribute to peace. He believed that Vietnam would be sincere in establishing good bilateral relations because Vietnam may have realized that its past foreign policy was not correct and had adverse effects on its economy.

Official Views Bangkok as Financial Center

BK3010035391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Oct 91 p B2

[Interview with Wichit Suphinit, Bank of Thailand governor; date and place not given]

[Text] [NATION] When did the Bank of Thailand first draw up the outlines of its policy to turn Thailand and Bangkok into a financial centre?

[Wichit] Since the early 1980s, the Bank of Thailand embarked on a study to set up offshore banking facilities in Thailand. Its implementation, however, was held back by a weak international reserve position. As the economy began to grow and international reserve position strengthened continuously since 1987, the Bank of Thailand, under the direction of the previous administration, drew up the outlines of the policy to turn Thailand and Bangkok into a financial centre.

The basic motivations are to bring about a closer integration between world financial markets and the domestic financial market in line with our policy to strengthen and liberalize the domestic financial system. With positive developments and impending political settlement in Indochina, it is believed that Thailand could play a significant role in the reconstruction of the economies of the Northern tier South-East Asia region.

[NATION] What are the central elements of this policy?

[Wichit] The main idea is to begin the setting up of facilities so that some of the intermediation of international capital can be carried out in Bangkok, with participation from both foreign and Thai financial institutions.

This is consistent with our policy to further liberalize the domestic financial system and to upgrade the qualities of financial services provided by Thai financial institutions.

Initially, the focus would be to promote the role of Bangkok as a centre for raising medium and long-term capital for the economic reconstruction of the Northern tier countries.

This is to supplement the roles already played by Thai commercial banks as a provider of some of the financial services to these countries in their trade in goods and services.

In the long-term, we would hope to see Bangkok developing into a "full service" regional financial centre, specializing in the intermediations of medium and long-term capital and serving a wider customer-base.

In this respect, Bangkok would have some mutual specialized roles with existing established financial centres.

[NATION] Increasing liberalization and openness will be necessary. Some moves have been made on this front, notably the removal of ceilings on interest rates, the admission of some foreign banks and the liberalization of foreign exchange controls in accordance with Article 8 of the IMF Agreement.

Nevertheless, domestic interests will doubtless require that the liberalization process be carefully regulated. What time perspective does the Bank of Thailand envisage for the implementation of its policy objectives? and what will likely be the major obstacles to be overcome in this process?

[Wichit] It cannot be sufficiently emphasized that the liberalization process will require gradual and carefully planned steps. The first significant step took place in March 1990 with the liberalization of the deposit interest rate ceiling. Remaining restrictions on the lending rate and savings deposit rate will be removed when the timing is deemed appropriate.

There is no pre-set timetable for the implementation of the remaining liberalization programmes. The authorities will continue to closely monitor the progress in the development and adjustment to the previous liberalization measures.

Financial institutions must be given time to adjust to the new open environment, to ensure a smooth transition towards a fully liberal and competitive system.

It should also be mentioned that the admission of new foreign banks has not yet been finalized pending GATT negotiations. Consequently, the major obstacles to be overcome will perhaps be in the area of new admissions of foreign banks.

This can largely be overcome by setting appropriate rules and regulations to clearly define the functions and specialization of the new type of financial institution in the centre.

[NATION] Political change in Indochina, which is leading those countries towards market economies, has stimulated lively investment interest, especially in Vietnam. Thailand is naturally the economic hub of the region. Bangkok's facilities far outstrip those available in the neighbouring countries, making the city an attractive conduit for investment in Indochina.

Does the Bank of Thailand see Thailand's emergence as a sub-regional financial centre in mainland Southeast Asia as a preliminary stage in the process of Thailand becoming a broader regional and international centre? Geographical proximity and the existing close political and economic ties with the Indochinese countries should give Bangkok an advantage as a sub-regional financial centre in mainland Southeast Asia.

[Wichit] Geographical proximity and the existing close political and economic ties with the Indochinese countries should give Bangkok the advantage as a sub-regional financial center in mainland Southeast Asia. Thailand stands a good chance of developing into a successful regional financial centre. However, this will certainly not be achieved overnight, for it is a continuing process that can be carried over the terms of several governments. It certainly cannot be underestimated that Thailand could progress to becoming a broader region and international centre.

[NATION] Do you think that the Thai baht might be used as a common currency in the region?

[Wichit] At present, the Thai baht is an important currency for business transactions in Indochina and Burma because of our very close trading relationship. Indeed, neighbouring countries have been using the Thai baht as the main currency in short-term transactions, before converting to the US dollar or other currencies.

The Thai currency has become important because of Thailand's geographical location, making it a gateway for marketing and investment in these countries. Indochinese states are still developing financial institutions to cope with trade and investment expansion. However, to say that the Thai baht might solely be used as a common currency in the region may be venturing too far.

A country as economically powerful as Japan does not even envisage the role of the yen as a common currency in its trading relationship with ASEAN (although we may, de facto, already be part of the so-called "Yen block").

[NATION] Do you think it is conceivable that Thailand might one day displace Singapore?

[Wichit] The aim of promoting Bangkok as a regional financial sector is not to compete with the existing established facilities, but to supplement the roles already played by other financial centres in the mobilization of international funds to countries in South-east Asia.

In fact, as regional economies continue to grow, business volumes will inevitably expand, thereby raising the demand for financial services. With greater demand for financial expertise to service the rising volume of trade and investment in the region. Bangkok and Singapore could easily share the benefits of growth, instead of displacing the other.

[NATION] What are Thailand's greatest assets which commend it to becoming a financial centre?

[Wichit] Thailand stands a good chance of becoming a successful regional financial centre. The country is well-endowed with a strong, diversified and stable economy, a large and growing domestic market, close commercial ties with neighbouring markets and a dynamic private and banking sector.

The telecommunication system is being substantially expanded and improved. Thailand is strategically located with good international aviation connections. Thailand shares the same time zone advantage as Singaproe.

Moreover, it would be fair to say that an "appropriate" regulatory environment conducive to the setting up of some forms of international banking and investment facilities is now in the making.

Under the second round of exchange liberalization, more liberal outward transfer of funds for investments was permitted, up to a stipulated level, while provisions were also made to allow foreign investors to repatriate investment dividends, and proceeds from the sales of stocks without seeking prior permission from the central bank.

[NATION] Thailand has not yet achieved NIC status and its economy is considerably smaller than other NICs such as Taiwan or South Korea. Why should Thailand becoming a financial centre be an important goal?

[Wichit] The question appears to suggest that Thailand should perhaps endeavour to achieve the NIC status before embarking on the plan to become a financial centre. That remark is well taken, but it should be noted that it is government policy to promote Thailand not only as a regional financial centre, but as a regional trade, economic and financial centre.

Just as Austria is working to become the Gateway to Eastern Europe, so is Thailand working to become the Gateway to Indochina. In view of the impending favourable political settlement in Indochina, and worldwide interest in the Southeast Asian region, as well as Thailand's economic strength, the country should be in a position to take up this task. The qualification of an NIC status need not be a prerequisite for any country to act as the gateway to an emerging regional market. Its geographical and strategic advantages and relative economic strength should enable it to take up such a responsibility.

[NATION] What impact do you think the transfer of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty in 1997 might have on investment in Thailand? Is Bangkok perhaps preparing to replace a defunct Hong Kong?

[Wichit] Since 1988, official records have shown a marked increase in portfolio and equity investment from Hong Kong into Thailand. In 1988, portfolio and equity investment was US$80.7 million and US$97.9 million, respectively. By 1989, the figure rose to US$538.5 million and US$170.3 million, respectively.

Financial institutions from Hong Kong have gradually taken equity participations in local financial institutions. Moreover, Thailand has a large community of Chinese businessmen and a conducive environment for investment from Hong Kong residents. It is therefore not impossible for Thailand to increase its role as a financial centre.

[NATION] Any bottlenecks in the establishment of the centre?

[Wichit] An important prerequisite for a successful financial centre is a liberal regulatory environment and a well-functioning domestic financial market and institutions. In this context, efforts to develop a financial centre have focused on improving the financial environment, removing existing bottlenecks and raising efficiency of the domestic financial system in three main areas:—Deregulate to the extent possible the domestic financial market, to allow greater flexibility in the operation and expansion of financial institutions, as well as to raise their efficiency;—Improve existing physical infrastructure to enable the smooth and efficient communication among institutions within and outside the country; and—Prepare the groundwork for the internationalization of domestic financial markets by deregulating foreign exchange controls and reviewing exchange rate system to allow the free flow of capital movement, thereby facilitating the intermediation process.

The authorities are fully cognizant of the country's income distribution problem, and have undertaken measures to boost the development of its agriculture and industrial sectors. This is aimed at boosting employment creation, and distribution of income to the regional economies.

The promotion of Bangkok as a regional financial centre will help diversify growth, development and employment to regional areas with the wealth of income derived from the servicing of international trade and transactions.

During the transition period, wage disparity may arise between capital city and rural areas. At present, such a practice already exists. Through the Board of Investment incentives, and the intensification of infrastructural investment to alleviate bottleneck problems, the authorities have gradually succeeeded in relocating plants and factories to the rural areas. Minimum wage rates have also been set for the various regional sub-division of the country. I do not see the objective of promoting a financial centre being ranked in terms of priorities with the objective of equitable distribution of wealth. If the entire country is benefiting from the synergies of higher wealth and growth, there should be no question of compromise between the two objectives.

Vietnam

Premier Vo Van Kiet Continues on ASEAN Tour

Meets Thai Businessmen

BK2910135791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 28 October, Chairman Vo Van Kiet had a cordial get-together with many Thai businessmen representing various private and state-owned companies of Thailand.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet informed the Thai businessmen of those issues he discussed with the Thai Government in the talks held on the morning of the same day, during which time the two sides stressed the relations of friendship and mutually-beneficial cooperation between the two countries, with economic cooperation being the basis of their relations. During the talks, the two sides also emphasized the role of private businessmen.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet said: We should further broaden our cooperation in such fields as oil and natural gas, maritime products, and the like. Vietnam is opening its doors to receive foreign investment, especially from neighbouring countries. However, we still encounter countless difficulties in various fields such as communications and transportation. But if we sit down together to exchange our views, these difficulties will soon be overcome.

The chairman answered questions raised by representatives of various companies concerning the agreement on investment promotion and protection to be signed by the two sides in the coming time, Vietnam's policy on fishery cooperation, the use and tenure of land for joint ventures, the exploitation of and trade in precious stones, and the rice export policy.

Since Vietnam's promulgation of the law on foreign investment in January 1988, companies from more than 30 countries have made direct investments in Vietnam.

The country's export value in 1990 increased by 2.6 times over 1986. Its export value in the first half of 1991 was almost as high as that in the entire year of 1986.

So far the Vietnamese Government has issued licences to more than 300 investment projects with total capitalization of 2.4 billion U.S. dollars. Of these, Thailand has 19 projects with total investment of 38 million U.S. dollars.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed Vietnam's consistent policy of striving to build, consolidate, and develop its long-lasting cooperation with its neighboring countries, regarding this as an essential part in its strategy for peace, security, and development.

Prior to the get-together, the presidents of the Thai Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Thai Industrialists, and the Association of Thai Financiers paid a courtesy call on Chairman Vo Van Kiet.

VNA Reports Meeting

BK2910160391 Hanoi VNA in English 1403 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 29—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet yesterday afternoon had a cordial get-together in Bangkok with representaives of many private and state-owned companies of Thailand.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet informed the Thai businessmen of the outcome of the talks in the morning between the Thai and Vietnamese Government delegations, during which the two sides stressed the friendship and cooperation of mutual benefit between the two countries, with economic cooperation being the basis of their relations. During the talks the two sides also stressed the role of private businessmen.

He said: "We should further broaden our cooperation in such fields as oil and natural gas, maritime products, etc. Vietnam is opening its door to receive foreign investment, especially from the neighbouring countries."

The Vietnamese chairman answered questions put by his guests concerning the agreement on investment promotion and protection to be signed by the two sides in the coming time, Vietnam's policy on fishery cooperation, the use and tenure of land for joint ventures, the exploitation of and trade in precious stones, and the rice export policy.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed Vietnam's consistent policy to try to build, consolidate and develop the long-term cooperation with its neighbours, which he considered an essential part in the strategy for peace, security, and development of Vietnam.

Before the meetings, the chairman of the Thai Chamber of Commerce, and the chairman of the Federation of Thai Industries and Bankers' Association had called on Chairman Vo Van Kiet.

Since the promulgation of the law on foreign investment in January 1988, companies from more than 30 countries have made direct investment in Vietnam.

The country's export value in 1990 increased by 2.6 times over 1986. The trade value between Vietnam and Thailand alone rose to 162 million U.S. dollars in 1990, a multi-fold increase compared with 1986.

So far, the Vietnamese Government has issued licences to more than 300 investment projects totally capitalized at USD 2.4 billion. Thailand has 19 projects with a combined capital of USD 38 million.

Speaks at Bangkok Banquet

BK2910142191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] In Bangkok on 28 October at the Government House, Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and his wife held a solemn banquet in honor of SRV Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet, his wife, and the Vietnamese Governm[illegible] high-ranking delegation. Attending the function on the Thai side were deputy prime ministers, members of the Cabinet, the supreme commander of the Thai Armed Forces, and many high-ranking officials.

In a reply speech at the banquet, Council of Minister Chairman Vo Van Kiet said:

First of all, I would like to thank Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and the Royal Thai Government for extending hospitality and a warm welcome to me and my delegation. We highly appraise your fine words for the Vietnamese nation and people. We also highly appraise the cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam. This is a lively manifestation of the Thai people's aspiration to live in peace and friendship with the Vietnamese people.

We are very happy to have the opportunity to visit your beautiful country with an age-old culture renowned for its originality. The moment we set foot in the capital city of Bangkok, we were immensely impressed by the dynamism of the Kingdom of Thailand. An agricultural country in the past, Thailand has now become a nation with developed agriculture, industry, and services, making great steps forward into a new stage of development. From the bottom of our hearts we would like to share with the Thai people this great pride, and we wish you success in implementing the Seventh Five-Year 1992-96 Socioeconomic Development Plan for the prosperity of the Thai nation and the happiness of the Thai people. We highly appraise the Thai people's experiences in economic development programs and hope to have the chance to exchange views with you in this regard.

Our two nations in Southeast Asia have enjoyed long-standing friendly relations. Historically speaking, our two nations used to cherish friendship and cooperation. It is regrettable, however, that at times dark clouds covered our good relationship. Today we have a new opportunity to develop not only our existing relations, but also cooperative relations for the mutual benefit of our two nations. I understand that this is a time in which we should take courage and forget the unhappy experiences in the past, promoting new conditions for friendship and cooperation. This new relationship must stem from mutual understanding and trust, and must be promoted through concrete acts. Discussions and agreements reached by the Vietnamese and Thai delegations manifest our mutual understanding.

I hope our visit and discussions in Thailand will lead to a new chapter in Vietnam-Thailand relations. This will be not only a contribution to the lasting friendship between our two countries, but also a current of fresh air blowing away the dark clouds of confrontation and suspicion and bringing in warmth for emerging peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

After many years of struggle for independence, freedom, and national unification, the Vietnamese people wish to live in peace and stability to develop the national economy and improve their living standards. With this objective, we are making our utmost efforts to carry out the comprehensive renovation undertaking, and we have scored initial yet important achievements in this task.

Implementing our current foreign policy, we are striving to expand relations with all countries in the world community for peace, independence, and development. We hope to promote cooperation with all countries in the world on the basis of equality, mutual interest, and the principle of peaceful coexistence. We attach particular importance to cooperation with countries in Asia and the Pacific, especially neighboring countries in Southeast Asia. I am convinced that with the goodwill of all countries in the region, we will certainly attain peace and stability, and our regional cooperation will undoubtedly achieve fruitful results.

Afterwards, Chairman Vo Van Kiet, the Thai Prime Minister, and distinguished guests at the banquet toasted the good health of their majesties the king and queen of Thailand and the development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Visits Chonburi Production Establishments

BK3010074891 Hanoi VNA in English 0614 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 30—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet and his party yesterday morning visited Phatthaya in Chonburi province and some production establishments in Thailand.

On the way to Phatthaya, Premier Vo Van Kiet and his entourage, who arrived in Bangkok Sunday for an official visit to Thailand's biggest industrial, agricultural and trade groups. [sentence as received]

While receiving Premier Vo Van Kiet, Mr. Sitthi Sawetsila, Chairman of the CP Group and former premier of Thailand, expressed his group's readiness to transfer technology to Vietnam, and cooperate and enter into joint ventures with Vietnam in maize grouwing, seafood processing and animal feed production. The group's leadership promised to present Vietnam with 500 kilograms of high-yield seed maize and to provide farming know-how to Vietnamese personnel.

For his part, Premier Vo Van Kiet expressed sincere thanks to Chairman Sitthi Sawetsila and the leadership of the C.P. Intertrade Co. Ltd. He highlighted Vietnam's interests in livestock breeding, plant seedlings and seafood processing.

Premier Vo Van Kiet and party were guided to see the Charoen Phokkhaphan feedmill and the cold storage of Seafood Enterprise Co. Ltd. of the C.P. Group.

Later the Vietnamese delegation visited Chonburi Province where they were warmly greeted by the governor of the province.

On their way back to Bangkok this morning, Premier Vo Van Kiet and his party are expected to visit the Map Taphut industrial estate in Rayong province, the (?refinery) plant of the National Petrochemical Corp. and the maintenance center of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand.

Early yesterday morning, the Vietnamese Government delegation paid a floral tribute to the Victory Monument in Bangkok.

Thai Premier Interviewed on Regional Situation

BK2710153891 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 27 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 27—Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of Thailand, has said that in the new situation that has arisen in the region and the world there is no reason for mutual suspicion among Southeast Asian countries.

In an interview by Nguyen Ngoc Truong, editor-in-chief of the Vietnamese External Relations Review, the Thai leader said the coming visit to Thailand by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet will be an event of great significance because it would create conditions for the leaders of the two countries to exchange views on bilateral and international issues.

Premier Anan said Thailand is following with keen interest the positive developments in Vietnam in recent years. He said: "Vietnam has shown its determination and readiness to act for peace in the region, to contribute to the peaceful settlement of the Cambodia issue and implement a positive market-oriented economy."

The upheavals in the international and regional situation in the recent times, the peaceful settlement of the Cambodia issue, and the improvement of Thai-Lao and Thai-Vietnamese relations "usher in a new stage of peace, mutual understanding, and cooperation."

He noted that in the new situation, with the strict implementation of the Paris agreement on Cambodia, Southeast Asian nations have no reason to be suspicious of each other. They must strive to eliminate the factors of concern and instability and to build up a reliable and stable relationship step by step. The Thai leader said that in view of their geographical conditions and traditional relations in history, politics, economy, and culture, the countries in the region should unite economically in one form or another to form a strong regional economy capable of competing successfully with the outside world.

Premier Anan expressed his belief that with the industry of its people and the determination for renovation of its leadership, Vietnam will soon catch up with other countries in the region. He also expresseed his hope that international financial organizations will help Vietnam. Thailand will also make a modest contribution, the prime minister added.

As the process of confidence building and mutual understanding strengthens, Vietnam will join the economic and trading system in the region; then its participation in ASEAN will be a logical delvelopment, the premier noted.

Radio Hails Indonesia's Friendship, Cooperation

BK2810093791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Article by Duong Quang Minh on the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Indonesia]

[Summary] Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam arrived in Jakarta to begin his official friendship visit to Indonesia at the invitation of President Suharto of the Republic of Indonesia.

"We consider this official friendship as one of great significance that opens a new chapter in our relations with the countries in the region, thus fostering common interests as well as the interests of every one of these countries and contributing positively to peace and security on this planet."

Indonesia, which consists of more than 13,500 large and small islands, is 1.9 million square meters in area and has a population of 180 million. "Like Vietnam, Indonesia has a history of unremitting struggle against aggressive colonialist forces. In August 1945, Indonesia gained independence and declared itself a republic."

Over the past 46 years, the people of Indonesia have struggled tirelessly for the development of their national economy on the basis of self-reliance and expansion of cooperation with other countries. At present, Indonesia is in the process of implementing its 1989-94 Five-Year Plan which emphasizes the development of the national economy.

As a country with abundant natural resources, especially oil and natural gas, Indonesia knows how to make the fullest use of this advantage. At present, the export value of oil and natural gas accounts for 40 percent of its gross foreign currency revenue.

On external relations, Indonesia pursues a policy of peace, independence, and neutrality and supports the move to establish a new world economic and information order. It also strives to make Southeast Asia a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation as well as a zone free from nuclear weapons.

"Indonesia sympathizes with the Vietnamese people and is proud of the fact that it used to be Vietnam's traveling companion on the road of national liberation from the yoke of colonialist and fascist domination to successfully carry out our glorious national revolutions, thereby ushering in national independence for each country." Indonesia has always attached importance to its relations with Vietnam.

"Since the unification of Vietnam, Indonesia has strenghtened relations with us in many areas. The two sides have continuously sent their officials to visit each other or hold scientific and economic seminars to appraise the actual conditions of each country in preparation for the expansion of cooperation and business activities.

"The Indonesian people are known to have a special respect for President Ho Chi Minh. They consider Uncle Ho not only as leader of the Vietnamese people but also of the oppressed who have risen up to liberate themselves.

"In seeking a political solution to the Cambodian issue, the people clearly see the ceaseless efforts of Indonesia in its capacity as co-chairman of the Paris international conference on Cambodia. All this can be proven from the conference of the foreign ministers of Vietnam and Indonesia in late 1987—which started a significant trend in the settlement of the Cambodian issue—to the Jakarta informal meetings on Cambodia and Paris international conference on Cambodia.

"Along with the official visit to Vietnam late last year by President Suharto of the Republic of Indonesia, this official friendship visit to Indonesia by Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the SRV will further strengthen and extend the bounds of friendship between the two countries."

Do Muoi Congratulates Heng Samrin, Chea Sim

BK2810101391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] On 19 October, comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the CPP Central Committee.

The message says: On behalf of the CPV Central Committee, I convey my warmest greetings on your elections as honorary chairman and chairman of the CPP Central Committee.

I wish you comrades and the entire Cambodian party and people good health to fulfill your tasks in the new stage, as set recently by the extraordinary national congress of the Cambodian party.

May the solidarity and traditional friendship between the two parties and peoples be further consolidated and developed.

My cordial salutations to you comrades.

Events Surrounding Cambodian Conflict Reviewed

BK2610134691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] The peace accord on Cambodia is due to be signed in Paris on Wednesday. On this occasion lets look back at the prominent events concerning a solution to the Cambodian conflict.

First of all, it is necessary to recall that the Cambodian problem did exist prior to 1978 when Vietnam exercised her right to self-defense in line with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

Since 1979, Cambodia has become a problem, a common concern to the world people. Obviously, Vietnam wants a political solution to Cambodia most because this will benefit Vietnam in creating favorable international condition for peaceful reconstruction.

A solution for the Cambodian conflict comprises two interrelated aspects: internal and external. Internally, the Cambodian factions and countries concerned have reached agreement on most of major issues for diplomatic activities and negotiatons aimed at seeking of a political solution fair to all sides.

In recent years, Vietnam's principled stand advocates a settlement of Cambodia's internal problems by the Cambodian themselves. Over the past three years, the Cambodians have been working hard towards this goal. This was reflected by the meetings in Jakarta, Paris, Tokyo, Phatthaya, and Beijing.

In September 1989, Vietnam completely withdrew all its volunteer army from Cambodia, making a major contribution to the solution to the conflict. It also demonstrated Vietnam's goodwill to solve the Cambodian problem by political means.

Vietnam's troop pull-out further accelerated the process of seeking a solution to Cambodia. The result of informal talks in Jakarta among the Cambodian sides sponsored by the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia in September 1990 paved the way to a political solution to the Cambodian conflict.

The joint communique released from the talks confirmed that Cambodian sides accepted the framework document compiled by the five members of the UN Security Council as the basis for resolving the Cambodian problem.

The warring sides in Cambodia agreed to set up the Supreme National Council [SNC] with 12 members. At the formal SNC meeting in July 1991 in Beijing, Prince Norodom Sihanouk was elected president of the SNC who decided to stand neutral and act as mediator.

It is not belong to any political parties or groups, SNC became the highest organ of authority presenting Cambodia's sovereignty [as heard].

Before that the warring sides agreed at a meeting in June this year to abide by the unlimited ceasefire and pledge to receive no more foreign military aid as from June 24 1991.

With the joint efforts made the Cambodian sides and countries concerned, the remaining issues were resolved in September 1991 before the resumption of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

After the two-day meeting on September 20 and 21 at the UN headquarter in New York, the framework of the agreement on a political solution to the 13-year long conflict in Cambodia was completed.

Over the past two days in France, the Coordinating Committee of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia met to finalize documents to the accords to be tabled at the Wednesday ministerial meeting. The agreement on a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian conflict is due to signed in Paris on Wednesday.

Certainly, this agreement will open up a new stage for Cambodia—that of building a crossroads and an independent country.

Radio Comments on Cambodian Peace Accord Signing

BK3010050591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Thanh Hai's commentary: "The Signing of the Paris Agreement"]

[Text] On 23 October 1991, in Paris at 1925 sharp, the peace agreement on Cambodia was signed in a solemn ceremony. Representatives of all Cambodian factions and some countries involved signed the four texts of the agreement, thus ending the 13-year destructive long war that caused untold sufferings to the people of a peaceful country with a long-standing cultural history and the world famous Angkor wonder. This was a moment worth remembering and a cause for joy for the Cambodian people, a joy shared by people all over the world.

Our Vietnamese people, who are closely attached to the Cambodian people by traditional friendship, a common border, and an awareness of the excessive losses and sufferings incurred by the Cambodian people, also share their joy at this auspicious moment. The signing of the peace agreement has raised hope that the months and years of darkness and suffering will be forever things of the past, even though still engraved on the memory of every Cambodian and even on the minds of mankind. This was the unexpected result of countless efforts.

First of all, this was a result achieved by the Cambodian people themselves, who are determined to master their own destiny and have struggled for national reconciliation and concord, peace and development. This was also the result of the effective meetings of the Cambodian Supreme National Council—the SNC—especially the last meeting in Phatthaya, Thailand, which paved the way to reconvening the peace conference on Cambodia in Paris on 23 October 1991.

These meetings, as observers have remarked, have demonstrated that the Cambodian people can settle their own affairs by themselves with the support and cooperation of countries involved and the United Nations, and with the effort and good will of Southeast Asian countries.

Our Vietnamese people welcome the efforts of all Cambodian sides, especially the State of Cambodia, His Excellency Hun Sen, Prince Sihanouk, the cochairmen of the conference on Cambodia, the UN general secretary, and the country members of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] consisting of the permanent country members of the UN security council and other countries, which led to today's agreement.

As for our part, with a good-will and constructive stand, and with a desire for peace, we have done our utmost for many years to help promptly reach a comprehensive, fair, and reasonable political solution to the Cambodian problem. From the joint communique with Indonesia in Ho Chi Minh city on 29 July 1987, which is considered as opening the process to a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem, to the active participation in the various meetings on Cambodia in Jakarta—the first and second Jakarta International Meetings and the International Meeting on Cambodia—the PICC, and the bilateral and multilateral dialogues with many countries, all were our efforts to seek a solution.

With the approval of the State of Cambodia, we gradually withdrew our troops, from the first time some 10 years ago in 1982 until the total withdrawal of volunteer troops from Cambodia in September 1989. Now, we have no soldiers or military advisors in Cambodia. These internationally recognized efforts by us have vigorously accelerated the process toward a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem. The history of the two nations of Vietnam and Cambodia will forever record Vietnam's recent efforts as well as those over the past 12 years. We have spared no sacrifices and have disregarded untold hardships and dangers to wholeheartedly support and assist the Cambodian people in their struggle for independence, sovereignty, and national survival. These efforts, which have also considerably helped the revival of the Cambodian people and have contributed to the cause of peace and cooperation in Southeast Asia, have been welcomed by public opinion in the region and the world over.

The ending of the southwestern border war to defend national independence and sovereignty and the restoration of Vietnam-Cambodia friendship to what it is now, constitute a great victory and a achievement for Vietnam today with the signing of the peace agreement on Cambodia.

With all those thoughts in mind, we welcome the Cambodian peace agreement and as a country signatory to the agreement, we assert together with other signatories our readiness to discharge adequately our duty in the implementation of the agreement in order to ensure a lasting and genuine peace in Cambodia. We understand that the implementation of the 23 October agreement will be a long process requiring effort and much more work from all sides so as to translate the clauses of the agreement into realities and not just stop at paperwork.

As regards the sovereignty of Cambodia, proceeding from the principle that the people of all countries must determine their own fate by themselves, we will respect the decisions of the SNC. At the same time, we contend that in the course of implementing the agreement and the UN Charter, the sovereignty of Cambodia and the sovereignty and security of Cambodia's neighboring countries should also be respected. From this viewpoint, we clearly realize that the signing of the peace agreement on Cambodia is an occasion for joy, but it is also a point of departure for even greater activities and efforts for the sake of peace and happiness of the Cambodian people.

We hope that peace Cambodia has today will last for the Cambodian people in order that they may rebuild their country and advance in the future, and that it will also open a new episode for regional countries and create the possibility of building a new Southeast Asia of peace, stability, cooperation, and development. We hope that this peace will remove all final obstacles along Vietnam's consistent line of implementing the policy toward normalizing and diversifying our relations of cooperation with all countries in the region and the world over.

Provincial Officials Leave for Yunnan Province

BK2810074191 Hanoi VNA in English 0547 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 28—A delegation of officials of the northern border provinces of Lo Cai, Yen Bai, Ha Giang and Lai Chau, and Haiphong Port City led by Ta Huu Thanh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of Yen Bai Party Organisation, on Oct. 26 left for a week-long visit to Yunnan Province, southern border province of China.

The delegation, which also includes representatives of the office of the Council of Ministers and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Commerce and Tourism, plans to discuss with Yunnan officials questions relating to commercial ties, possibilities of the transport of transit commodities by rail to Yunnan via Haiphong, joint actions ofr border security, as well as scientific and technical cooperation.

District Benefits From Open PRC Border Trade

BK2210121391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 Oct 91

[Article by station correspondnet Giang Trung Son: "Dong Dang Door-Opening Seen With Anxieties and Prospects"]

[Summary] "Thanks to its important geographical position, Cao Loc District of Lang Son Province is benefiting from the opening of the border. It has enjoyed many many advantages in economic exchanges.

"Since the opening of the Sino-Vietnamese border, thousands of bicycles-for-hire have been carrying merchandise, especially commodities, from China to Vietnam via a trail that begins from Border Marker No. 17. Chinese-made merchandise is said to have been transported from Cao Loc to Dong Dang town and Lang Son provincial capital by various means, mainly by pack bicycles, from where it will be further shipped southward to other places.

"According to statistics provided by the local administration, some 4,000 Soviet-made pack bicycles are making their rounds daily on the portion of road from Border Marker No. 17 to the capital city via the Doc Quyet checkpoint and Dong Dang town. A pack bicycle handler can make several transportation trips a day with each trip capable of carrying up to two quintals of merchandise. From this, we can imagine how large the extent of the merchandise influx has been. The merchandise outflow is also equally large. It covers almost everything, ranging from commodities to seafoods such as crabs, fish, and snails.

"Worthy of note here is that copper and nonferrous metals continue to be smuggled through certain border checkpoints in Lang Son, such as Dong Bang and Doc Quyet, by various means. It is reported that following the reopening of the border and as the relations between Vietnam and China have become closer to normal, the quantities of copper and nonferrous metals smuggled across the border into China have decreased. Ironically, this decrease has not resulted from our intensified border control efforts. Instead, many smugglers have, because of one reason or another, shifted toward dealing in other more lucrative goods.

"Visitors to Dong Dang [in Cao Loc Disrict] now notice Chinese people everywhere. These Chinese are either inhabitants at the border or traders coming from distant places in northern China such as Tianjin and Beijing."

As for Cao Loc District, the Dong Dang commodity fair opened there last May was a great success. What is most important is that it has been able to establish trade relations with many foreign economic units. "As already agreed by the local administrations of the Vietnamese district of Cao Loc and those of Pingxiang in the Chinese province of Guangxi, a construction materials project will be built in Dong Dang to produce cement bricks, a product now in great demand in the mountain region. A tourist food catering service called Friendship Restaurant will also be set up."

An easily noticeable change is that the bustling scene has made a quick comeback in Dong Dang. Rows after rows of modern brick houses, including two or three-storey ones, have sprung up. The people now can afford expensive household facilities. A local inhabitant of Cao Loc who returned to Dong Dang as a trader after having been resettled somewhere in a new economic zone for 10 years said in a good mood that he is ready to give up all of his assets in exchange for being allowed to live in Dong Dang.

Leaders of Cao Loc District have asked local economic units to make preparations for cooperation with China. With its abundant forestry products of high export values, especially with the availability of 400 hectares of sandalwood trees, Cao Loc now can earn a billion Vietnamese dong per year from its forestry resources. This money can help the district defray its daily expenses. Cao Loc is building its infrastructure with its own local revenue.

Comrade Ha Van Thanh, chairman of the district people's committee, revealed that a cadre shortage is also a problem with the district. "While China is planning to build Pingxiang into a national trade center, Cao Loc should do likewise by striving to turn itself—especially the area of kilometer stone no. 8 or the the beginning portion of National Highway No. 1 where the Friendship Gate is located—into a national showcase at the border."

Lao Cai-Yunnan Provinces Border Trade Doubles

BK2810143191 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] The cross-border trade between Lao Cai and Yunnan Province of China has increased steadily. The value of trade on each side is estimated to be double last year's at more than 10 billion Vietnamese dong.

Lao Cai Province has opened Nam Trung Restaurant while Yunnan Province has set up a trading company called Ha Khau Company and Nam A Bank to do business between the provinces.

However, cross-border trade between the state-run units of the two provinces account for only a small percentage of the total trade. Mainly conducted by the people of the two countries, it is difficult to control. Trading of illegal and banned commodities has also been taking place.

To end that, representatives of Lao Cai and Yunnan localities met to discuss measures to tighten control over import-export goods, prepare opening main trading checkpoints, and restore the Lao Cai transportation system. These measures will be implemented to facilitate heavier trade in the future.

Leading cadres of Lao Cai Province and officials from the Customs Service General Department have instructed responsible sectors to check the border crossing so that they are in accordance with the laws and traditions of both countries.

Nguyen Khanh Attends Cultural Committee Session

BK2510155091 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—Vietnam's National Committee for International Cultural Development Decade has held here its first session under the chairmanship of Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the committee. The committee's 26 members heard the report on the strategy of world cultural development launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientifc and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and on the activities of other countries national committees. The participants discussed the orientation, working modalities and plan for the coming period.

The meeting recommended that a common programme be worked out to develop the cultures of different ethnic groups in the country and to increase cultural exchanges with the world.

Nguyen Thi Dinh at Cuban Ambassador's Party

BK2810082091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] Cuban Ambassador Armando Saucedo Yero last Friday gave a party on the success of the Fourth Congresss of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Addressing the function, Madame Nguyen Thi Dinh, president of the Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Association reaffirmed Vietnam's solidarity with, and strong support of, the Cuban people in national building and socialist construction.

The host, for his part, reiterated the determination of the people and the Communist Party of Cuba to defend again their revolution and keep to the path of socialism.

U.S.-Based Society Sends Aid for Flood Victims

BK3010075791 Hanoi VNA in English 0612 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 30—Ph. D. Nguyen Trong Tien, president of Viet Sociey in the United States recently presented the first consignment of aid to flood victims in the Mekong Delta region.

The aid includes 33 sampans, and a quantity of medicines and rice worth Vietnamese dong 21 million, and a cash gift of dong 45 million for the building of a school in the Mekong Delta province of Tien Giang.

Intergovernmental Commission With France Meets

BK2510154791 Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—The eighth session of the Vietnamese-French Intergovernmental Commission for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held here from Oct. 21-23.

It was attended by Prof. Nguyen Ngoc Tran, vice-chairman of the State Commission for Science and Technology and head of the Vietnamese delegation, and French Ambassador Blanchemaison, head of the French delegation.

The two sides reviewed their cooperation in 1990-1991, and took note of the increasing scale and domain of cooperation and the effectiveness of many projects of cooperation in the cultural, scientific, technical as well as socioeconomic areas.

A memorandum on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation for 1992-93 was signed on Oct. 23 by Nguyen Ngoc Tran and the French ambassador.

The cooperation programme covers wide-ranging areas from cinematography, art and music to agriculture, healthcare and informatics.

German Consulate Opens in Ho Chi Minh City

BK2510155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—The consulate general of the Federal Republic of Germany was opened in Ho Chi Minh City on October 24, with Ph.D. Peter Shmidl [as received] as consul general.

Present at the oepning ceremony were high officials of the city and the consuls general of other countries. Also present was Klaus Zeller, ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the FRG to Bonn.

German State Minister Notes Economic Cooperation

BK2610151691 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct.26—Hermann Schaufler, minister for economy and technology of Baden Wurttemberg State of the Federal Republic of Germany, held a press conference in Ho Chi Minh City yesterday during his current visit to Vietnam.

He briefed the press about the FRG's ecocomic cooperation plans with Vietnam in the coming period as well as the fruitful talks he held with Vietnamese Minister of Education and Training Tran Hong Quan.

Minister Hermann Schaufler said that the FRG wishes to broaden its economic relations with Vietnam particularly to expand assistance to Vietnam in job training. As a first step he said, the FRG is ready to send experts to Vietnam on longterm assignments to help train Vietnamese specialists.

He made it known that the FRG state secretary for economic cooperation will visit Vietnam next month.

Signs Technical Instruction Protocol

BK2710115691 Hanoi VNA in English 0708 GMT 27 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 27—A protocol on the provision of a DM 10 million aid by Baden-Wurttemberg State, Germany, for the Technical Instructors Training College of Thu Duc, Ho Chi Minh City, has been signed here.

Signatories were Tran Hong Quan, minister of education and training of Vietnam, and Hermann Schaufler, minister of economy and technology of Baden-Wurttemberg State, who made a working visit to Vietnam.

Minister Hermann Schaufler and his party were received by Phan Van Khai, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers. They also met with leading officials of various ministries and enterprises to study possibilities for promoting economic cooperation in the coming period.

—The German Government has allocated DM [Deutsche mark] 6 million for a refresher programme for Vietnamese bankers.

According to Mr. Claude Jarczyk, vice president and chief international executive of Berliner Bank, the German Government has entrusted his bank with conducting this 4-year programme which aims to improve the knowledge and skill of bankers of commercial banks as well as teachers from banking colleges in Vietnam.

Training will be given in both Germany and Vietnam by German teachers.

Lufthansa To Begin 2d Weekly Flight in Nov

BK2710152691 Hanoi VNA in English 1359 GMT 27 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 27—Lufthansa has signed an agreement with Vietnam Airlines on operating another weekly flight to Ho Chi Minh City starting from November.

Lufthansa has been flying weekly flights to Ho Chi Minh City every Tuesday for a year now.

On the first additional flight to Tan Son Nhat aiport will be the director in charge of the Southeast Asia Department. He will introduce future strategy for aviation relations between the two airlines.

Sweden Agrees To Help Upgrade Juridical System

BK2810143491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] A specific agreement for Sweden's support in implementing the rule of law in Vietnam for 1991-1993 has been finalized. The agreement provides that the Swedish Government will assist Vietnam in legal expertise, equipment in support of lawmaking, personnel training, and building a library and an information center. It will also help Vietnam's Ministry of Justice reform the existing juridical system. First of all in settling economic and arbitrary c enter.

The Swedish Government will provide Vietnam with seven million crona for all these services.

Red Cross, Red Crescent Societies Accredited

BK2810074591 Hanoi VNA in English 0544 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA 28 Oct—A memorandum of understanding has been signed which establishes the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies as an accredited international organization and futher strengthens its role as a humanitarian and development agency in Vietnam.

The memorandum, signed by the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam in Geneva and Hanoi, was handed over Mr. Pham Ngac, director of the department of international organisations, to Mr. Michael Sidman, head of delegation of the league in Hanoi, during a short ceremony on Hanoi on Wednesday.

Prof. Nguyen Trong Nhan, president of the Red Cross of Vietnam who was present at the ceremony, congratulated both signatories to the memorandum and expressed satisfaction at the ever-increasing collaboration between the league and the national society. He noted that this achievement came one month before his participation in the league's general assembly to be held in Budapest, and the 45th anniversary of the Red Cross of Vietnam.

Joint-Japanese Tailoring Venture Starts

BK2610074891 Hanoi VNA in English 0626 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 26—A Vietnamese-Japanese tailoring joint venture in making high-quality women garments for Japan has started operation in Ho Chi Minh City.

The joint venture, known as Minh Phuc, involves the Cao Minh Taigmr shop and the Import-Export Corporation (IMEXCO), in the city, and the Folk Company and Marubeni Group of Japan.

The Vietnamese partners wre responsible for employing workers and making women's jackets for Folk Company and Marubeni Group. It is an order from Japan for making 10,000 jackets, an average 2000 articles a month.

Foreign Currency Exchange Center Set Up

BK2610150891 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 26 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 26—The governor of the Vietnam State Bank has decided to set up a foreign currency transaction centre in Hanoi.

The centre is headquartered at the Hanoi State Bank.

Exchanges will be done once weekly on every Wednesday. The first exchange day is scheduled for November 2, 1991. This is the second centre of its kind in Vietnam after the first centre set up in Ho Chi Minh City which began operation in last August.

Do Muoi Addresses Ho Chi Minh Party Congress

BK2510145791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 23 Oct 91

[First installment of two-part speech by CPV General Secretary Do Muoi at opening of second-round Ho Chi Minh City party organization congress on 22 October—recorded]

[Text] Dear Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, adviser to the party Central Committee; dear comrade veteran revolutionaries; dear comrade delegates: On behalf of the party Central Committee, I cordially welcome our comrade delegates to the second-round congress of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization, fifth term, and would like to convey through them, my cordial regards to all members of the city party organization, party members, and compatriot city residents. [applause]

The second-round congress of delegates of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization, fifth term, is of great importance for the city's development in the years ahead. Party organizations and people in the southern provinces as well in the entire nation follow with avid interest the city party organization congress.

Being a major center in the southern part of the fatherland, the city has an important role and a heavy responsibility to fulfill in the process of joining hands with the entire country in implementing the seventh party congress resolution, the platform for national construction in the period of transition to socialism, and the strategy of economic stabilization and development until the year 2000.

Over the past five years, implementing the renovation line traced by the party since its sixth national congress, the Ho Chi Minh City party organization and people have scored very important achievements: safeguarding political stability, taking the lead in the renovation undertaking, broadening the process of democratization, improving the socioeconomic situation a step further, firmly maintaining production, and making progress in many respects. The volume of import-export products has increased. Progress has been made in many aspects of life. The living standards of people of all strata have been improved. The party's renovation line has been quickly applied to life, thus reflecting the city's sensitivity to the multisectorial commodity economic development policy.

New progress has been made by many establishments regarding workstyle. Contacts and screening have provided the party and state with many concrete experiences in the leadership and management of socioeconomic affairs as well as in the development of the multisectorial commodity economy in accordance with the market-oriented mechanism.

Our party highly appreciates all those positive factors because they are proof of efforts to renovate their thinking and workstyle as well as to uphold their bravery, revolutionary heroism, and creativity.

Over the past five years, the city has made progress in implementing democratization in all aspects of life. The activities of the people's council and Fatherland Front committee have yielded more concrete results. Importance has been attached to a pilot program initiated by the city to renovate the management mechanism at the city ward level. Studies have been made to improve the quality of administrative work. Initial results have been achieved in drawing a line between state management and control over production and business operations. Major campaigns initiated by the city against corruption, smuggling, lack of thrift, and other practices likely to cause inconveniences to the people have brought about limited results. However, these actions meet the people's aspirations and are in conformity with party and state policies.

Importance has been attached to ideological work, and this is an indication of the sound political background of city party organizations, primarily, of party committee echelons and key cadres in charge of city management.

The city has made every effort to meet the people's needs for access to information, press, cultural, and artistic activities. It has also made much progress in implementing a social welfare program designed to create employment for the people and to provide them with vocational training, learning activities, and medical care and treatment. Efforts have also been made to assist needy compatriots and to show concern for people who have rendered meritorious services to the revolution and the fatherland. Thousands of houses have been built for this purpose. A widespread movement for charity work has been initiated among the masses.

Putting their confidence in the party's renovative line, compatriots in the city have made more positive efforts to promote production and business operations. The combination of economic policies and social policies is an indication of our concern for the motto: Everything for the well-being of the people—as well as being proof of the superiority of socialism.

The city party organizations and administrative bodies have developed the aggregate strength of the people, firmly safeguarding political stability despite many complicated developments in the city, discovering and foiling many of the enemy's dark schemes and acts of sabotage, consolidating national defense and security, and cracking down on criminals.

On this occasion I would like to recall those days when you comrades and compatriots in the city enthusiastically discussed and contributed your views on the draft documents of the seventh party congress, and through this process you reasserted your choice of socialism, the path chosen by Uncle Ho. The party organization and people of the city displayed their patriotism, their democratic spirit, their new ability to think, and their scientific perceptions about the country's vital issues in view of the new epochal situation.

What is of more profound significance is that the above achievements were all attained thanks to the sensibility of the party organization and the people of the city amid a very complex international situation which has had a surpassingly negative impact on the domestic situation at a time when hostile forces are striving to encircle and isolate Vietnam and accelerate their scheme to eliminate socialism in our country.

With its party organization knowing how to rely on the people in widely promoting unity among the compatriots of various strata—workers, peasants, intellectuals, businessmen, youths, women, elderly people, war veterans, retired cadres, people of various religious affiliations and various ethnic groups such as those of Vietnamese and Chinese origins, teenagers, children, and overseas Vietnamese nationals—the city that bears the name of Uncle Ho has upheld the spirit of solidarity in the cause of advancing the country toward socialism with the motto: Remain united in the renovation and remain united for the sake of the renovation.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, I warmly hailed the patriotism, the persistent revolutionary tradition, the unity, and the achievements scored by the party organization and people of Ho Chi Minh City over the years.

Dear comrades, with a sense of responsibility as communists before the party and people, besides those achievements already gained, you, comrades, can also easily realize that there remain certain aspects of work which we have not yet done well, given the great latent potentials of the city.

We need to first look at those subjective reasons as cited in the views contributed by various party cadres and members, by elderly comrades, by the representatives of the people of various strata, by the members of the Fatherland Front, and by various intellectuals, writers, and artists to the draft documents of this party organization congress. These views provided many heartfelt and accurate assessments pointing out that we have failed to clearly realize the two-tiered policy of the market mechanism, failed to anticipate the contingencies, and failed to adequately prepare conditions for embarking on the market economy so as to develop its positive and dynamic aspects and contain its negatively spontaneous aspects. The state management over such a large city as ours is still not up to date. As a city with its commodity-based economic growth rate higher than that of other localities in the country and with its intensive market transactions at home and abroad, the local party organization should pay greatest attention to providing political, educational, and ethical training to various party organizations and to every party cadre and member.

With its determination enhanced by its freshly-gained knowledge and qualifications, the city has scored greater achievements in the struggle against negative phenomena—the ills of corruption, bribery, smuggling, and goods counterfeiting; the collapse of credit organizations; cases that involve great losses of the state and the people's property; negligences in economic dealings with foreign countries; and indications of wrongdoings in cultural, information, and press management, including cultural cooperation and service with foreign countries. The city has allowed the commercialization of cultural activities to occur and its acquisition of foreign culture has lacked selectiveness, thus eroding the cultural identity of the nation and its ethics and traditions. Those views scrupulously contributed by you, comrades, and by the compatriots on state management have served as a heartfelt reminder to our party cadres and members to help firmly safeguard national defense and security and maintain discipline and laws; severely punish law offenders, corrupt officials, and those who bully the people; fight against the bad practice of providing umbrella-like protection for cronies; and keep the party mechanism clean and steadfast.

All these views have bespoken the people's ardent desire for a stable and prosperous life in which all citizen's rights are guaranteed and democratization is carried out widely and scrupulously.

From the forum of the city party organization congress, I would like to remind the city of its role as an industrial metropolis with a large number of working-class people. It should be admitted that the party's infrastructure among the working class is not strong enough, that the working class' conceptions of the party have not yet been adquately enhanced, and that efforts to build the working class and organize party work among workers are still weak. The role of the working class can never fade away in the face of the commodity-based production system and the market-oriented economic mechanism. Instead, the new conditions arising from socialist construction require that we consolidate and uphold the role and position of the working class.

It is our party which, basing itself on the standpoint of the working class and representing the interests of the laboring people, has adopted a multisectoral commodity-based economic policy as it is applying the market-oriented economic mechanism. It is precisely due to this that the party organization has promoted the alliance among workers, peasants, and intellectuals, and has developed the great latent potentials of the intellectuals in carrying out various national policies on education and training, and science and technology. Furthermore, it is precisely due to its working-class standpoint that the party organization should renovate itself and intensify its leadership over various mass organizations if these social organizations are to be diversified to reflect the special features of a large metropolis.

Here I would like remind you of cadre training. The contingent of the city's dynamic and flexible cadres has been constantly replenished with youths from the actual revolutionary movement. Many of them have matured very quickly. In cadre-related work, the city has failed to bring itself up to the new situation as there remain many pressing problems to be solved, ranging from planning to the arrangement of cadres, including those inside and outside the party and those coming from different sources. The city should strive to make every cadre a loyal and persistent fighter and a creative talent ready to devote himself to the people's cause.

Far from causing the enthusiasm of cadres to wear down, the city's commodity-based economic development policy has made cadres more steady, versatile, creative, and capable of rallying greater public support. In carrying out cadre-related work, we need a broad and scientific vision. In personnel recruitment we should select loyal, competent, ethical, and reality-hardened people to meet requirements arising from our revolutionary tasks. All indications of opportunism, localism, parochialism, and nepotism should face criticism.

One of the weaknesses of the city party organization's work performance is that it has failed to review its experiences in various aspects of work. Its activities are large in substance but poor in quality.

If systematically exploited, that experience drawn from reality by Ho Chi Minh City will help the leadership skills of the party organization and will, at the same time, contribute to the fatherland's vault of collective experiences.

Reviewing experiences on activities will help us discover problems to be solved and find out what is strong and what is weak, and what is right and what is wrong in order to struggle to overcome these things through criticism and self criticism. By so doing, we will be able to improve the knowledge of party cadres and members, discover good cadres, remove those degraded and deviant elements, consolidate our ranks, and improve cadres' knowledge and revolutionary ethics.

Responsibility for the city's weaknesses and shortcomings rests partially with the central government. The macroeconomic management of the city, especially the management over banking, financial, and social welfare activities, as well as other activities of the central-level sectors, should be improved in accordance with a renovative spirit in order to create favorable conditions for local industry development under an integrated national economy. Simultaneously, it is necessary to restore public order, firmly safeguard the law, and maintain public discipline.

Central level sectors in the city and the city itself should pay attention to ironing out difficulties and overcoming obstacles. It is our major goal at present to strive to promptly tide the country over the current socioeconomic crisis for the sake of the future of the Vietnamese nation. All activities of various echelons and sectors in the country should be guided along this direction.

Do Muoi's Congress Address, Part 2

BK2710143191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Second installment of two-part speech by CPV General Secretary Do Muoi at opening of second-round Ho Chi Minh City party organization congress on 22 October—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear comrades: Ho Chi Minh City is a major economic, cultural, technological and international exchange center, and a major communications terminal. The city's economy is closely linked to a rich agro-forest-fishery products region with a developing industry. The area has great labor and land resources which assures the city of a rear base abounding in grain, food, agricultural products and raw materials. The development of the oil and gas industry will open great prospects for the city's industrial and service sectors.

The city, of course, has its own difficulties and complexities in the political, economic, cultural, national defense and security domains. Nevertheless, generally, no other city in our country could have assembled such great advantages and potential.

The party's renovation line has given us additional knowledge. Yet it has required us to bring into play the central role of the city in developing the multisectorial commodity economy that evolves along a market-oriented mechanism under state management control and the socialist direction. To fulfill this requirement, the city should decide on a rational economic structure that will turn out abundant and diverse products of good quality productively and efficiently.

The city should harness its strengths and attract regional sources of raw materials to develop the agro-forest-fishery products industry and the consumer goods industry. This is to meet domestic demand, substitute a considerable portion of imports and heighten production standards for export. At the same time, it should pay due attention to the development of manufacturing industries, especially engineering and electronics. It should surge forward in turning out production means and be capable of equipping and re-equipping itself and the entire region, especially in supporting regional agriculture, forestry and fishery. It should pay attention to the development of processing industries such as its agro-forestry-fishery industry and the consumer goods industry.

The city should upgrade and build more infrastructure. Evidently, due to its important and favorable position, the city should continually develop its services ranging from the supply of raw and other materials for production to commercial services, product consumption, financial and banking services, information, investment, export-import, and public relations and tourism. This is to support its production and the entire region.

In the market mechanism, what should be recognized is the city's relationship with other cities in the region. It must be equal, mutually beneficial, reliable and cooperative to promote mutual growth and development. This relationship is significant in strengthening the worker-peasant-intellectual alliance, and it will also help the Mekong Delta and the entire former B-2 zone to progress. This is the duty and responsibility of the city, the region and the entire country.

The assets among the people of several strata are still large. If they could be exploited properly and invested wisely the socioeconomic development rates of the city could increase several times. We encourage everyone to invest in developing production and business and to become rich legitimately, ensuring true equality before the law in all economic sectors. However, the commodity economy must develop healthily. It is necessary to eliminate the fair prevalence of individuals under the protection of state engaging in illicit business, and dodging and cheating on taxes. This situation is at variance with the policy on the multisectorial economy. It has upset discipline and order, negatively affected social life and restricted the development of the economy.

The city party organization should attentively lead in the reorganizing the state-run economy to consolidate and increase its effectiveness. State economic installations include both the local and centrally-owned in the city. These must all be reorganized and be run profitably according to law and discipline; prolonged losses must end; the increase in productivity and efficiency must be higher than increases in income. Only in this way can the state-run economy progress and maintain its leading role. The open mechanism must complement the state management. Since our country is still very poor, together with developing production and businesss, we should practice thrift and treat it as a national policy. We must be thrifty in both production and consumption. We must economize on raw and other materials, and reduce the cost of production and distribution to lower total production cost. We must forbid the misappropriation of public assets and the use of state funds to buy wasteful, luxurious gifts.

All party committee echelons, administrative organs, and the people must keep an eye on and take stern measures against these phenomena. All individuals, families, and establishments should practice thrift and invest in production and business operations to benefit national construction. It is necessary to educate and encourage everyone to use homemade products.

Also, our country often experiences losses caused by natural diasters. Therefore, efforts should be made to raise funds to prevent natural diasters, thus creating conditions for assisting those localities that experience difficulties or lag behind in development due to unfavorable circumstances.

I have learned that during its past term implementing the party Central Committee's directive, the city party organization adopted measures to consolidate party installations and has scored initial results. That's great! Keep up the good work, comrades!

Moreover, it must be noted that a number of comrades have failed to overcome challenges, becoming degraded and deviant and causing the people's confidence in the party to weaken. Many party installations remain weak and even fail to firmly grasp the tasks and leadership orientations set forth by the party to cope with the new situation.

At present, it is urgently important that each party member's revolutionary fighting spirit be increased and that each party installation's militancy be consolidated and enhanced. The party must fully understand the people's aspirations, help improve the conditions of their material and spiritual life, and make them clearly understand all party policies and enthusiastically respond to the mass movement to perform realistic revolutionary deeds. The attachment between the party and people constitutes the base of the revolutionary undertaking. Therefore, all party members must make efforts to consolidate that base.

The party serves no interests other than the people's interests. Let party members follow the examples set by Uncle Ho by showing genuine respect for the people, listening to their opinions, and guarding themselves against the evils of bureaucratism, officialism, lack of democracy toward the masses, and other practices likely to cause inconveniences to the people. Party members are not allowed to have any special privileges. Each party member must set a good example and enthusiastically respond to the movement against corruption, bribetaking, officialism, extravagance, unthriftiness, negativism, and violations of law because these are all contrary to the party's ideals and the people's moral ethics.

The city party organization must take concrete measures to strengthen ideological and organizational work aimed at making all party members and people understand that it is of the utmost importance now to devote efforts to making the people rich and the country powerful as well as to firmly defending the beloved fatherland. It is necessary to see to it that ideological work helps uphold everyone's love for the country and socialism, and helps generate confidence in our nation's socialist path as well as in Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh thought, and the renovation undertaking.

At present, good implementation of ideological work means the ability to work out concrete measures to make the people rich and the country powerful. It is necessary to fully understand the motto: Everything for the people; accelerate the renovation undertaking; firmly maintain political stability to benefit development; and resolutely oppose bureaucratism, conservatism, and sluggishness.

At the same time, firm measures must be taken against all indications of opportunism and alienation from the goals of national independence and socialism, as well as all indications of deviation and extremism.

Ideological work must be effective enough to cope with increasingly sophiscated and pernicious arguments being used by hostile forces to distort the truth, sow disunity, and promote instigation.

The principle of democratic centralism is our organization's source of strength. The shifting of the economy to the market-oriented mechanism poses a series of new problems for organizational work. Party organizations and, in a broad sense, state apparatuses and mass societies, must renovate their thinking and workstyle and must be strong enough to develop the positive factors of the market-oriented mechanism and reduce and eliminate its negative factors. Party organizations must be strong and capable of correctly resolving a series of new problems arising from the eventful and complicated world developments.

Regarding cadre-related work, measures must be taken to secure continuity and successiveness. Steps must be taken to combine the training, improvement, and promotion of young cadres with the assignment of cadres who have grown up from the previous stages. It is important to attach importance to the experiences of veteran comrades. Attention must also be paid to the training and improvement of female cadres.

Under the system of party organizations exerting leadership over administrative bodies, party organizations' leadership efficiency is reflected first of all through the work efficiency of people's councils, people's committees, Fatherland Front committees, and mass societies.

Regarding the handling of administrative affairs, extremely deep intervention or lack of close leadership by party committee echelons will bring bad results. One of the very important tasks for local party organizations is to recommend that outstanding cadres take charge of state agencies and mass organizations.

The party must exert close leadership over the implementation of national defense and security work and must educate all party members and people about the need to heighten vigilance in order to firmly maintain the fatherland's independence and sovereignty; guarantee political stability and public order; firmly maintain discipline and law; secure peace, stability, and the right of mastership for the people; and oppose all forces standing in the way of our people's cause of national construction and our advance toward socialism.

Dear comrades, socialism at present is facing an overall and profound crisis. The socialist system in the USSR no longer exists. The Soviet Communist Party's activities are cancelled. This is the greatest loss of the Soviet people and Communist Party, the international worker's and communist movements, and the world revolutionary and progressive forces. Reactionary forces are intensifying their attacks to eliminate socialism in remaining countries. Facing this situation, many people have worried whether our country can stand firm and continue on its socialist path.

In answering that question, we confirm that our country will certainly stand firmly and continue to develop for the following reasons:

First, over the last half century our people have answered the appeal of the party and Uncle Ho to conduct long wars full of sacrifice and hardship and successfully implement the party's lines: Long struggles certainly lead to victories, and independence and unity will certainly be successful.

Nowadays, with whatever form the new struggle will take place, our people—who are controlling our own destiny—will determinedly protect our revolution's results, not allow any forces to destroy those results, and will implement Uncle Ho's teaching: There is nothing more precious than independence and freedom. We accept the sacrifice of everything, but certainly do not accept the loss of our nation or accept to be slaves.

Maintaining the stability to build the country and bring happiness for ourselves and our descendants is the steel-like will and earnest aspiration of our people after dozens of years of fighting for freedom and independence.

Looking back through thousands of years of history of building and maintaining our homeland makes us believe more in the will, character, and tradition of our Vietnamese people, who have always stood firmly on their own feet, and have made progress with their hands and minds. Our people have built up our country from ancient times mainly through their own efforts, and will continue to do so from now on.

Historical experiences prove that our people's fate and our nation's existence and development do belong to the results of our own people's decisions. We will not let them be decided by external forces.

Second, real challenges have come to us. Entering the year of 1991, basically, all possible sources of aid do not exist. But our people have striven to overcome difficulties and surmount challenges. Our people have not only stabilized production and livelihood, but also have developed and improved in some respects. Important and recently scored achievements have proven that.

The point of paramount importance to note is that from the situation of a permanent lack of food in the past, and in this year with many localities affected by natural disasters, we have still stabilized and fulfilled the need for food in the country. Moreover, we are still able to spare some food for export.

Other areas of progress have been achieved. We have begun to gain experience and lessons in doing business under new circumstances, and we are striving to create conditions for entering the year 1992 with more positive beliefs.

With the achievements scored this year and with positive preparation for next year, we believe that our economy and society will advance many new steps in the process of implementation of the seventh national party congress resolutions.

Third, the renovation which was carried out by us since the sixth national party congress is basically correct in direction, steps, and measures. The renovation was collectively accepted by the whole party and people and enthusiastically implemented. The multisectional commodity economy is developing, the life of the public has been improved or stabilized, political stability has been maintained, and democracy has gradually developed.

With the preparation of constitution promulgation to correctly stipulate the leadership role of the party, renew the state's management, and gradually build the juridical state, we are positively proceeding with political reform using correct steps and measures.

Democracy has been developed more broadly with each passing day while at the same time maintaining discipline, and this process meets the requirements of the new situation. This makes the superstructure gradually become more suitable to the infrastructure, leading the renovation undertaking to a higher level with more profound and complete content. That also is the basis of stabilizing the country. Stability is maintained to continue renovation, and renovation is continuously carried out to develop and create more stability.

It is possible to say that the renovation undertaking which we began on time—if we do not want to say that it was started fairly early—with suitable direction, steps, and measures, as well as precious experience gained during its implementation, is the most important condition to guarantee for our nation to stand firmly in the face of any challenges. It also creates great advantages for us to continue developing.

Fourth, the line of national independence and socialism, which has been determinedly implemented by our people so far, is completely suitable to the natural law of mankind's evolution. National independence and socialism are the inevitabilities of history that all countries and nations will achieve sooner or later.

All great revolutions in the world have had to experience temporary failures before they were successful in the end. The new situation is suitable to natural law—despite the fact that it has had to face obstacles and experience ups and downs—but in the end the new will replace the old.

Our revolution over the past half century has experienced its periods of ups and downs, and has suffered ferocious and difficult challenges—sometimes it had to step back, facing failure—but in the end it gained glamorous victories. The country was liberated, independent, free, united, and moving into the transitional period to socialism.

During the process of building socialism, we committed mistakes of dogmatism, voluntarism, and applying the wrong socialist models. But since the sixth national party congress and after we found out about our earlier shortcomings, we tried to correct these shortcomings and began the renovation process. At the seventh national party congress, we continued to confirm and develop the renovation, strengthen the people's trust, and gather the people's force to continue to move the revolutionary undertaking forward. Enthusiam and pride are suitable responses to the initial successes of the past few years.

Taking the above-mentioned reasons into consideration, we confirm that our party and people will certainly overcome difficulties and challenges in the new circumstance, stand firmly, and continue to keep the nation moving forward on the socialist path which was chosen by the party, Uncle Ho, and our people.

Of course, this is not the socialism of the old model. We have to continually study, research, and draw from work experience so that we can gradually build up new socialist concepts. And on that basis, we will define a model of socialism that is correct and works for the true happiness of our people.

Doan Khue at 5th Military Region Party Congress

BK2910092891 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 20 Oct 91

[Text] The party organization of the 5th military region just concluded its second-round congress of delegates with fine success.

The delegates intensively discussed the report summing up the party organization's leadership over the tasks of the military region in the past term of office so as to acquire the lessons of experience in defining guidelines for the development of the party organization in the next term of office. They also paid attention to making the party organization and all grass-roots party chapters politically and ideologically strong and capable of leading their units in a way that meets the new requirements and tasks.

General Doan Khue, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and deputy secretary of its Military Commission and minister of national defense, observed and directed the congress. The congress elected the comrade cadres with considerable prestige and ability to the executive committee of the military region's party organization for the 1991-95 term of office.

Vo Van Kiet at Public Health Session 19 Oct

BK2710042291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] Implementing the objective of renovating the public health workstyle, on 19 October, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet visited the center for servicing domestic and international development programs to attend a working session with the Minister of Public Health, professors, associate professors, physicians, and directors of various hospitals of the central level and in Hanoi. Accompanying Chairman Vo Van Kiet was Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

After listening to reports made by directors of hospitals on their difficulties and obstacles in treating patients, especially the shortage of facilities for treatment, Comrade Vo Van Kiet contributed views aimed at resolving these issues in the immediate future and on a long-term basis. He also proposed measures to overcome obstacles in the daily work of hospitals to suit the present conditions in our country.

Agriculture Tax Collection Directive Issued

BK2510141991 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] On 14 October, the chairman of the Council of Ministers issued Directive 313 on the collection of agriculture tax until 1992. A passage from the directive is as follows:

There has been some positive changes in recent years to agriculture tax collection. Residual problems and shortcomings have been gradually solved. Delays in paying tax and using taxes for other purposes are still common. Also, tax collection does not accord with production. In some localities, tax collection regulations are not observed strictly and does not cover all areas and those who should be paying it. Tax reductions and exemptions have also been applied freely while tax assessments are lower than what it should be, resulting in losses of revenue to the state.

After touching on agriculture tax collection until 1991 and the collection from 1992 onwards, the directive sets out policies and measures for its collection from now until the end of 1992 as follows:

Focus collection on 1991 taxes and on those not paid in the previous years. The implementation of the agriculture tax exemption as suggested in Ho Chi Minh's testament will be concluded by the end of 1991. Every locality must organize tax collection efficiently or monitor it closely. Taxes collected must be deposited with the National Treasury. Payments from organizations and individuals must be regularly and closely checked. Inefficient and corrupted tax officers must be relieved of their jobs.

Council of Ministers Decree on Turnover Tax

BK2810105491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] The Council of Ministers on 19 October issued a decree regulating the implementation of the Council of State's decision on supplementation and amendment to the laws on turnover tax and special consumption tax.

The Council of Ministers charged the Ministry of Finance with the task of establishing the amended turnover tax chart and the authority to reduce the special consumption tax for newly established production and industrial establishments being operated at a loss or on an experimental basis.

The decree eliminates point three of the Council of Ministers' Decision No. 203 dated 29 June 1991.

This decree is valid as from 1 October 1991 [date as heard].

Tax Collection for First 9 Months Reviewed

BK2810104391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 20 Oct 91

[Text] Over the past nine months of this year, in implementing the new tax laws, the tax collection control services have made better progress compared with 1990. However, tax collection shortfalls remain quite substantial in the various sectors, localities, and economic units. According to reports from the revenue services, as of 30 September 1991, tax collection shortfalls in the entire country have reached more than 600 billion dong. As for the import-export tax collection shortfall, the figure stands at more than 312 billion dong, including 246 billion from Ho Chi Minh City, 24 billion from Dong Thap, 17 billion from Hai Phong, 10 billion from Hanoi, 4 billion from Long An, and nearly 2 billion from Tay Ninh.

A number of key enterprises still owe large amounts of taxes. For example, Saigon Beer still owes 70 billion, the Aviation General Department 31 billion, the Power Supply Corporation No. 2 owes 29 billion, Hanoi Beer 11 billion, and Vinh Hoi Tobacco 12 billion.

Very substantial tax collection shortfalls have created a great imbalance in the state budget. To guarantee the fulfillment of the 1991 tax collection target in accordance with the state tax laws, on 14 October 1991, the chairman of the Council of Ministers issued Directive No. 312/CT containing the following main points:

All late tax payments must be paid from now until the end of 1991. As of 1992, no late tax payments to the state shall be allowed. All organizations and individuals are required to pay their late tax payments to the state treasurer immediately in accordance with orders from the revenue services. As of 31 December 1991, those organizations and individuals who still owe taxes shall be subjected to punitive measures specified under the provisions of the tax laws.

Under the current tax laws, organizations and individuals who intentionally seek ways to avoid paying taxes shall be brought before the law in accordance with Article 169 of the criminal code.

NHAN DAN Asserts Socialism's 'Correct Path'

BK2810060591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] NHAN DAN on 21 October carries an article entitled: "Socialism, A Correct Path Chosen By Us." The article says in part: Since the Great October Revolution in 1917, scientific socialism has been concretized into the first socialist model in the Soviet Union, and afterward in a series of countries. During the past more than 70 years, through many ordeals and struggles against hostile and economic blockades imposed by developed capitalist countries and attacks launched by revisionism in various forms against socialism, and through unsuccessful as well as fruitful implementation of the socialist model in many nations, socialism has still been regarded the most valuable, progressive asset of mankind.

Scientific socialism has integrated billions of people to participate in the struggle against oppression over social classes and nations. In the history of mankind, there has been no such large-scale, far-reaching, and successful revolutionary movement as the one influenced by scientfic socialism. Socialism was the main force that defeated Fascism, thus helping mankind avoid the scourge of genocide. As a result, a realistic socialist model—which experienced failure either by objective or subjective causes in Europe—has still been impressed by millions of laborers who have found and are disappointed to see that many contradictions in the capitalist world are unable to be resolved. Socialist realism, with its genuine values, has become a vital opposition to capitalism, thus forcing the latter to frantically struggle against the former and strive to improve itself. Many socialist-oriented socioeconomic factors have emerged in various capitalist societies. The strong influence of socialism has forced authorities in many countries that took the capitalist path to call their countries to the socialist ones. It can be said that in the chaotic 20th century, socialist realism has become an important factor determing the progressive path for mankind.

The article concludes: Firmly taking the socialist path, our party and people are ready to cope with decisive ordeals in their unprecedented revolutionary struggle, especially the socioeconomic difficulties experienced by a poor and backward country that has not yet overcome its economic crisis and the consequences of the complicated international situation. However, in the difficult and decisive moment, due to the tradition of national unity, the Vietnamese people will integrate their strength to firmly advance along the chosen path so as to fulfill exceptional missions, as did our ancestors.

Armed with Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought, our party has ample capability and ability to develop the gained achievements, overcome shortcomings and mistakes, renovate itself to be worthy of the people's confidence, and to lead the revolution further. Initial achievements of the renovation undertaking scored during the past several years are eloquent evidence of this fact.

Moreover, in their arduous revolutionary struggle, the Vietnamese people have never fought alone. This is because socialism has been profoundly impressed by millions of people in the world and there are always friends and supporters of the Vietnamese people. The inevitable development trends of civilization, though still new, will be factors supporting us. Efforts to promote international economic relations on the basis of mutual interest and to exploit the Vietnamese people's creative labor and capability will create economic prerequisites for socialist construction in our nation. The transition period toward socialism is the difficult path leading us to achieving the goal of making our people and nation strong and prosperous, thus helping us to refrain from social injustice and suffering as experienced by the capitalist society.

Socialism is the correct path and a pride of the conscience of our people.

VNA Reviews Hanoi Newspapers for 28 Oct

BK2810074991 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 28—Newspapers here today and Sunday continue to give pride of place to reports on Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet's official visit to Indonesia.

The papers publish the full text of the Indonesia-Vietnam joint press statement released at the end of the visit. The statement said, among other things, that the two sides noted with satisfaction the positive developments in the region, which afforded the opportunity for peaceful and cooperative relations among the countries in Southeast Asia, and reaffirmed their determination to contribute, cooperation, friendship and free from nuclear weapons.

NHAN DAN and QUAN DOI NHAN DAN carry a message of greetings from President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong to President Vaclav Havel of the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovakia on the occasion of the republic's National Day (October 28).

The papers report that General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Do Muoi, received Chinese Ambassador Zhang Dewei here on October 25, during which the Vietnamese leader said normal relations would benefit not only the two peoples but also to peace, stability, and development on the region and the world as the whole.

Nguyen Duc Binh, Politburo member of the party Central Committee have led a Vietnamese delegation to the inauguration in Phnom Penh on Oct. 25 of the Vietnamese-built institute of sociology as gift to the Cambodian people, the papers report.

NHAN DAN reports that in an interview by Nguyen Ngoc Truong, editor-in-chief of the Vietnamese external relations review, Thai Prime Minister Anan Payarachun said that the coming visit to Thailand by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet, will be an event of great significance because it would create conditions for the leaders of the two countries to exchange views on bilateral and international issues.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in an article occasioned by Chairman Vo Van Kiet's visit to ASEAN countries says that the visit will open a new page for the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and other countries in Southeast Asia.

NHAN DAN for its part runs an article on the all-sided achievements of Thailand and its economic and cultural relations with Vietnam.

Other reports say that South Korean Sports Minister Park Chul-un has paid a three-day trip to Vietnam during which he signed an agreement with Vietnam on sports cooperation, and that a delegation of Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Ha Gian and Lai Chau provinces and Haiphong City led by Ta Huu Thanh, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of Yen Bai Party Committee, has begun a week-long visit to China's Yunnan province.

Australia

Five Airmen Presumed Dead in Boeing 707 Crash

BK2910104291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0852 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Melbourne, Australia, Oct 29 (AFP)—Divers began searching off the southeast coast Tuesday after a Royal Australian Air Force Boeing 707 airliner crashed into the sea, presumably killing its five-man crew, officials here said.

The jet was flying low and slow on a routine training flight when eye-witnesses heard a bang, then saw it spiral out of control and into the sea three kilometres (two miles) from the sleepy seaside village of Woodside, Victoria.

It was the largest plane to crash in Australia's history, and the second RAAF aircraft lost during a training flight from Sale airbase this year.

A RAAF spokesman said searchers had sighted an oil slick, two life rafts, a life jacket and other wreckage in the area, but the crew was missing and presumed dead.

The Defence Department admitted that it had no clue to the cause, and said the rest of the RAAF's six Boeing 707's had been grounded pending investigations.

The ex-Qantas jet bought from Saudi Airlines in 1988 was one of the government's part-time VIP fleet often used to fly Prime Minister Bob Hawke and senior ministers on overseas missions.

According to one eyewitness, Mari Anne Tyben of the Woodside Beach Caravan Park, "there was a big bang and a loud explosion," and the aircraft appeared to struggle to gain height.

"Something appeared to fall off the back of it, it could have been off the wing, but I'm not sure, it was some part of the plane," she said. "Then it turned on its side and nose-dived into the water."

Farmer Robert Wight described how the plane twisted sideways and spiralled into the water.

"We thought it was unusual for a plane that big to be flying that low, it was about 2,000 feet (600 metres)," he said.

The jet, stationed at the Richmond air force base in New South Wales, was on a training flight to the Sale RAAF base 240 kilometres (150 miles) south of here.

After flying from New South Wales, it had made what the RAAF described as "a touch-and-go landing" at Sale then flew off to the training area.

The spokesman said the aircraft had sent out a brief mayday call about 11:55 a.m. and then disappeared from radar screens. It crashed about 48 kilometres (30 miles) from the Sale base "and we have no idea what caused it."

Four rescue boats and 13 helicopters continued the hunt among the wreckage from the crash and navy divers arrived in the afternoon to search for clues.

The 707 was carrying five crew—three pilots, a loadmaster and a flight engineer—when it left Richmond in the morning.

They were identified as Squadron Leader Mark Lewin, Flight Lieutenant Tim Ellis, Flight Lieutenant Mark Duncan, Warrant Officer Johnathon Fawcett and Warrant Officer Allan Gwynne.

Two airmen were killed in August when their single-engine Pilatus PC9 trainer crashed about three kilometres (two miles) from the airbase.

The only other jet passenger plane to crash in Australia was an Aztec Eagle Cessna 500 Citation in which 11 died at Mount Emerald, Queensland on May 11, 1990.

Australia's last major civil air disaster occurred on December 31, 1968, in Western Australia, when a propeller-driven Vickers Viscount crashed killing 26 people.

Acting Defence Minister Gordon Bilney said the 707 had been built in 1975 and was used extensively for VIP flights.

"This is a very tragic accident," he said.

"My sympathies go out to the next of kin, and I speak not only on my own behalf but on behalf of Mr. Hawke as well.

"It's the largest plane we've had go down. The other RAAF accidents have involved fighter aircraft."

Bilney said diving teams were on the way to try to recover the black box flight recorder to try to determine what happened.

Government Reimburses Chinese Students

BK2910105491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0922 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Canberra, Oct 29 (AFP)—The Australian Government has paid 58 million (45 million U.S.) to reimburse Chinese students who hoped to study English at private language colleges here, Education Minister John Dawkins said Tuesday.

About 12,000 Chinese lost thousands of dollars each when the government tightened visa restrictions two years ago and some colleges that had collected pre-paid fees collapsed.

The issue damaged relations between Australia and China and led to demonstrations outside Australia's embassy in Beijing and its consulate in Shanghai.

But Dawkins went to Beijing last April and promised all claims that had been received by then would be processed by the end of October.

He said in a statement Tuesday that 10,201 claims had been processed and about 58 million dollars paid. A further 1,500 claims, received later than April, were still being processed.

The government was also finalising about 700 "very small" claims for the balance between total fees paid by prospective students and amounts already refunded by colleges.